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Devoted to Art, Literature, Science and the Home Circle.

M. N. 41.

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MARCH is popularly supposed to come in like a Lion and go out like a Lamb but unfortunately for the makers of wise saws and modern instances March does so only to a limited extent. In Australia where

they do everything contrariwise March is one of the most delightful months in the year and corresponds with our weather in September. Spring in that country consists of September, October and November; summer, December, January and February; autumn, March, April and May, and winter is in June, July and August. The sun in that peculiar country rises in the West and sets in the East. North winds come from the South and South winds from the North. Trees shed their bark instead of their leaves and the leaves instead of turning toward the sun turn only the edges. Lilies, tulips and honeysuckles grow to the size of our regular trees and grass grows in clumps and not together as ours does. In a country like this therefore it is not surprising that the month of March is different from all other Marches you ever heard of.

March is also an important month for many other reasons than its propensity to blow things endwise. In our own country it is the great month among the farmers. The close season is over and the farm is ready for plowing and planting. The teams need overhauling, the barns need painting, the live stock are ready for their outdoor life. All nature smiles and the first month of spring finds the farm a busy place with not a moment to spare.

And so with the rest of the country. The retail merchant is busy spreading on his shelves the new goods for the coming spring. The manufacturer is busy placing on the market his production and the papers teem with the great bargains that are offered at the rival establishments. Navigation on the rivers is reopened, the glorious game of base ball looms up in the near distance, and the owners of race horses all over the country discuss the coming spring meeting. Spring is here and March, the month of brag and bluster is the first to give assurance of its presence.

In the past, March has acquired distinction in many ways. Julius Caesar, Rome's first and greatest citizen, was assassinated during the Ides of March, which meant about the middle of the month; the curious and superstitious may be interested to know that the assassination of Caesar was immediately preceded by many singular and unusual occurrences which have baffled the ingenuity of historians and others to explain. For instance, the arms of Mars which had been deposited in Caesar's house rattled at night. The doors of the room wherein he slept flew open spontaneously. After the murder of Caesar he was remembered that an attendant had removed his gilded chair thinking he would not attend the meeting.

In our own time March is honored above all other months. It is the month when the new Presidents are

inaugurated and when about twenty or thirty thousand people catch rheumatism, pneumonia and bronchitis from standing around in the wet. It usually rains and if not rain something else equally disagreeable. Bye and bye some one with sense will suggest a change and it will be adopted unanimously.

But the observance of one day, the seventeenth of March will have to go on forever, for although it is generally rainy on St. Patrick's Day, yet our friends from the "Emerald Isle" do not let the wet weather dampen their ardor for the Holy St. Patrick and the sprigs of green can ever be found to be numerous in our large cities on this great day for the Irish Nationality, where parades and general festivities are the order of the day.

In this connection let me mention some of the noted historical events which have occurred in this good month in years past, and especially this year. Tuesday, the first, being Mardi Gras-day, on which King Comus holds full sway, called Shrove Tuesday; Wednesday, the second, being Ash Wednesday, and the beginning of Lent, also the birthday of Pope Leo XIII, who was born in 1810. In 1845 on the 7th of March, Florida was admitted to the union, and in 1737 Herculaneum was discovered, after having lain buried for many years in the ashes of Vesuvius. To our Episcopalian and Catholic readers this is a month of great interest, as it contains several of the most prominent holy-days in the calendar of both denominations. One of the special days being the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin, March 25th. Also in this month occurs the storms known to all as the "equinoxial," and to those whose homes are near the oceans, as the "fine gales," and at these times our coast line sailors endeavor to be particularly prudent in their voyages. At this time the busy house wife does her washing and hangs it out of doors on the lines and the wind riddles the clothes into strings unless in a well protected spot.

Our artist has cleverly depicted the effect of March winds on the pedestrian and the combined effects of wind and rain. All through the early part of the month such scenes are of constant occurrence, and though our artistic friend has slightly exaggerated the result yet many who have gone through just such an experience will admit that the effect is almost as bad. Whether or not a costume specially adapted for March weather such as we have suggested will ever be adopted is an open question. The need of it is apparent but like many other reforms it will be a long time coming. March is the month in which early English calendars pretend that Noah entered the ark. They also state that Noah and his wife frequently quarrelled between themselves and when Noah carried the news of the impending flood she met him with reproaches and upbraided him for always being a bearer of bad news and complaints of the unhappy life she leads with him. However the water rises and she is glad to seek refuge in the ark UMBRELLA, which she formerly derided.

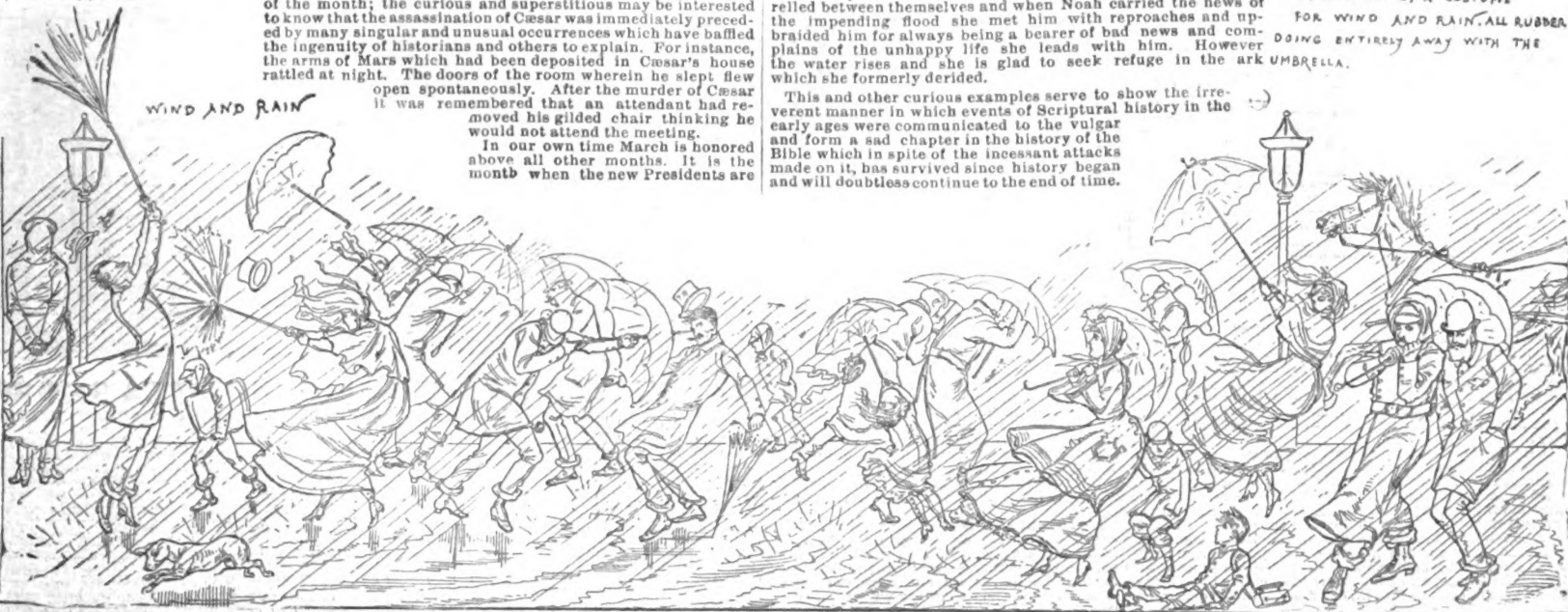
This and other curious examples serve to show the irreverent manner in which events of Scriptural history in the early ages were communicated to the vulgar and form a sad chapter in the history of the Bible which in spite of the incessant attacks made on it, has survived since history began and will doubtless continue to the end of time.



SUGGESTION OF A COSTUME FOR WIND AND DUST.



SUGGESTION OF A COSTUME FOR WIND AND RAIN. ALL RUBBER, DOING ENTIRELY AWAY WITH THE UMBRELLA.



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more popular than to-day. Many ladies making high wages working at home, odd hours. Besides beautifying your own home you can make 15c. every 5 minutes you stamp for others. If you only devote 3 hours a day to it, the snug little sum of \$5 and over comes in, as the prices range from 5c. to \$1 for each pattern you stamp. An inventive genius has lately modernized machinery for turning out these patterns by the hundred yards as fast as you can reel off a ball of yarn, so their cost is *barely* nothing to what it was last year. We send the patterns on strips about two feet long and seven inches wide. Nearly as good as many 5c. and \$1 ones now being

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 beginner to READ, COUNT and FINGER correctly, and PLAY AT SIGHT on the PIANO OR ORGAN.

At night, the down town resorts are deserted and the great Table D'hôte restaurants to which I have referred commence operations. The dining-rooms of Delmonico's on 5th Avenue and 26th St. present a new color and odor, and the Hoffman Hotel presents a new witnessing. In the leading hotels that have recently sprung up music from a band screened behind a mass of foliage does much to enhance the patronage of the dining-rooms, and all the Clubs are in full swing. Truly New York by gaslight at dinner time is an interesting sight and well worth a visit.

THE CATERER.

Had not Strength Enough to Carry an Ordinary Pail of Water.

Writes G. W. August of Lima, Ohio, "When I commenced taking Oxien but five weeks later I received a lot of flour and picked up two 60 lb. sacks and carried them not only across my store but 80 feet further without setting them down. I have gained 47 lbs. in three months and feel so young and strong that I hardly know what to do with my great power, surely Oxien is a wonderful food and I can sell a great quantity here." The Giant Ox Co., Augusta, Maine will send any one a Free Sample of Oxien who will write this month.

EASTER NUMBER COMFORT

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Devoted to Art, Literature, Science and the Home Circle.

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APRIL, 1892.

By Morse & Co Augusta, Me



He came upon a young child crying bitterly.

MR PIMWIMPLE'S PROTEGÉE

BY JOHN S. GREY.

wimple is, drudging away at law all day long when he might be enjoying a life of pleasurable ease!"

They did not know that "pleasurable ease" in young Pimwimple's lexicon meant criminal laziness. He had more respect for the hod carrier than for the idle dude who declares he has "no need to work." His theory was that the man who would not work, having health and strength, had no business on the earth.

Mr. Pimwimple was a bachelor, and that is why he was so much berated by the society matrons who had marriageable daughters in whom the great lawyer failed to show the slightest interest. His indifference to feminine charms was attributed to lack of good taste by the general run of the fair sex, but there were a few solid headed clubmen—close friends of Archibald's—who used to say that he would certainly marry when he found the right kind of party. But they knew him well enough to feel sure that no fashionable butterfly would, or could, ever win him.

Archibald Pimwimple was a strictly temperate and highly moral man. When not at business he could be found at home in his library or in the reading room of his favorite club. Balls, parties, theatres, receptions had no charms whatever for him; he thought them all waste of time. He subscribed liberally to all worthy public charities, but his private acts of benevolence far exceeded those done in public. If he had one hobby in life outside his business, it was practical charity, and he would often say to himself, "Of what use is my wealth except to help me to do good to my fellow-creatures?"

His mother had died two years before he lost his father, and the old lady who kept house for him now, was a very distant relative on his mother's side. The household staff consisted of a female servant and a butler, who also acted as valet to Mr. Pimwimple.

One night in the early eighties Mr. Pimwimple was walking homeward from the elevated station nearest to his house. It had commenced to rain, but the lawyer was so deeply immersed in thought that he was apparently oblivious of the fact that he was getting drenched. As he turned the corner of his own street, however, he came upon a young child crying bitterly. She was a girl about four or five, and was fairly well dressed but evidently in deep distress.

"What is the matter, little one?" asked

Archibald kindly, as he took the child by the hand.

"I's—I's—los—lost!" sobbed the little girl, looking up wistfully into Mr. Pimwimple's face as if hoping to find her home therein.

"Tell me where you live," said the lawyer sympathetically.

"I—don't—know!" drawled out the little one between her tears.

"Well, who's little girl are you?"

"I's Waggle's girl!"

"Waggle's?"

"Yeth, Tham Waggle's girl."

Half the people around that neighborhood were Mr. Pimwimple's tenants, but Sam Waggle's was an entirely new name to him. But the rain was now pouring in torrents and the street was no place for deliberation.

"Come along with me, little girl," said Archibald impulsively, as he lifted her in his arms. "My house is only half a block away, and then you can tell us all about it in a warm room, and we will try to find your father for you bye and bye."

When the stately butler opened the door for Mr. Pimwimple a few seconds later, he was astounded to find his master with a crying child in his arms.

"Send Mrs. Mayweather to the library at once," said Archibald, as he passed by the astonished servant and walked up the richly carpeted stairs with his still sobbing burden, whom he deposited on an arm chair in his comfortable study.

In less than two minutes Mrs. Mayweather, the housekeeper, tapped at the door, and receiving permission to enter, came into the room.

"Mercy on us, Archie!" she cried in amazement. "Whose child is that?"

"Waggle's!"

"What Waggle's?"

"Why, Sam Waggle's."

"And who is he?"

"I haven't the slightest idea, but this little one will tell us as soon as she stops crying. Now my dear, let this lady take off your wet things and give you a cup of hot tea, and then, when you feel quite warm and rested, you can tell us how you came to get lost. Don't be afraid now, we'll find Sam Waggle's for you by and bye."

"Oh please don't!" said the child piteously, as her tears commenced to flow afresh. "I don't want Waggle's any more—he beat me, and he'll beat me again if he catches me. I—I ran away from him!"

"You ran away!" breathlessly exclaimed Mr. Pimwimple and Mrs. Mayweather simultaneously.



Curtin vs Curtin and Curtin met his gaze.



"I will let you know in the course of a year."

"Ye—yes," answered the child tearfully, "Waggle's used to beat me so when I told the people who I was!"

"Well who are you?"

"Emily."

"And who is Waggle's?"

"I don't know, he took me away from my Mama ever so long ago—more than a week I guess. An' he said he'd kill me if I didn't tell everybody I was his little girl."

Archibald looked at Mrs. Mayweather and shook his head.

"Here is a mystery," he said dubiously

ALL NATIONS CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORLD'S FAIR





What a lovely, sunshiny day this is, Sister Bee! warm as summer, and such a clear blue sky. We shall have a full meeting to-day, surely. Yes, here they come from all directions; but what are they going to do with all those umbrellas?

"Why, it is April, Busy Bee, don't you know?" says the foremost one; "and the wise man takes his umbrella when the sun shines in this capricious month. It may rain in torrents before we get home again."

The weather is a trifle uncertain, I admit, still it does seem as if it never looked less like rain than now. But come in, come in! how inhospitable of me to keep you standing on the doorstep. Never mind about taking off your rubbers, I have not cleaned the Hive yet, and a little mud will not hurt anything. Queen Bee and I do not believe in cleaning house until it is "settled weather."

"I have come prepared to scold," says Rosalie Wynne. "At the last meeting we did not have any crocheting or knitting at all, and I think it was too bad. I wanted to learn some pretty new edging patterns, for that is all the kind of fancy work that I care anything about."

"I felt a little disappointed myself," replies Mrs. H. D. Ellis of Grand Rapids, Mich; "but then I enjoyed that talk Busy Bee gave us about pillows, and have since made some very pretty ones for my own home from ideas which she suggested. I have brought some edging patterns myself this time, and hope the sisters will like them; I think this

FAN LACE

is especially pretty.

Chain 20. (No. 40 thread.)
1st row.—4 dc in 4 st, ch 4, 1 dc in same st, (skip 4, 4 dc in 5th st, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 3 times, making 4 holes and 4 clusters, ch 3, turn.

2d row.—3 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same, (4 dc in next 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 3 times, ch 3, turn.

3d row.—(4 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 4, fasten with sc between last 2 dc, ch 3, turn.

4th row.—17 dc under 4 ch, ch 1, (4 dc in 4 ch, ch 3, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 4, turn.

5th row.—(4 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 1, 1 dc in 1 ch, skip 1 dc, (ch 1, 1 dc in 2d ch) 8 times, ch 3, turn.

6th row.—1 dc under 1 ch, (2 dc under next 2 ch) 8 times, ch 1, (4 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 3, turn.

7th row.—(4 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 1, 1 dc in 1 ch, (1 dc in dc, 1 dc between 2d and 3d dc) 9 times, ch 3, turn.

8th row.—1 dc between 1st and 2d dc, (ch 1, 1 dc between next 2 dc) 18 times, ch 1, (4 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 3, turn.

9th row.—(4 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 1, 1 dc in 1 ch, (ch 2, 1 dc in next 1 ch) 19 times, ch 3, turn.

10th row.—3 dc under 1st 2 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same, (skip next 2 ch, 4 dc in next 2 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 9 times, making 10 holes in scallop, skip 1 ch, 4 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4 times, ch 3, turn.

11th row.—Crochet same as last row around scallop, fasten last 4 ch with sc to 1st dc in cluster of 4 dc, ch 1, turn.

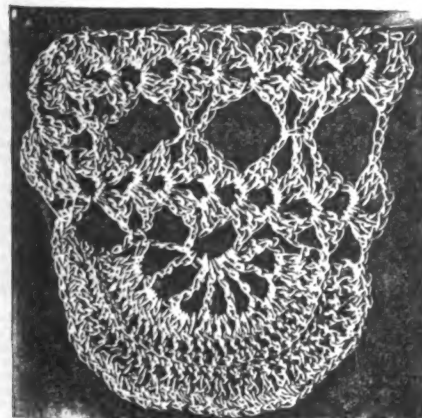
12th row.—10 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same ch, 4 dc in next 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same and so on to end of row, ch 3, turn.

13th row.—Work around scallop same as before, fastening last 4 ch with sc in 1st of 10 dc, ch 1, turn.

14th row.—Same as 12th row, ch 3, turn.

15th row.—Same as 13th row, ch 1, turn.

16th row.—15 dc in 4 ch, sc in 1st of 4 dc, (10 dc in next 4 ch, sc in 1st of 4 dc) 9 times, making 10 scallops across bottom of large scallop, (4 dc in 4 ch, ch 4, 1 dc in same) 4 times. This finishes 1st scallop, make the rest the same only fasten the 4 ch (to begin next scallop) with 1 dc instead of sc between 4 dc, and 1st small scallop ch 3, sc in 3d dc of scallop, then 17 dc same as 4th row, fasten 5th row with sc to 6th dc of scallop, the 7th row between 1st and 2d scallop, the 9th to middle of 2d scallop, the 11th row, before making ch 1, to middle of 3d scallop.



HALF WHEEL LACE.

Chain 9. (No. 30 thread.)
1st row.—(3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in 4th st, ch 4, (3 dc, ch 2, 3 dc) in next 5th st, ch 5, turn.

2d row.—Shell on shell, ch 4, shell on shell, ch 1 in 1st st of ch, ch 5, turn.

3d row.—Shell on shell, ch 2, catch under both of 4 ch with sc, ch 2, shell on shell, ch 3, turn.

4th row.—Shell on shell, ch 4, shell on shell, dc in 1st st of ch.

5th row.—Ch 3, shell on shell, ch 4, shell on shell, ch 3, turn.

6th row.—Shell on shell, ch 2, catch under both 4 ch with sc, ch 2, shell on shell, dc in 1st st of ch.

7th row.—Shell on shell, ch 4, shell on shell, tr, (thread over hook twice) in ch 3, ch 2, repeat 8 times more, sc in ch 3 of shell.

8th row.—Ch 3, 4 dc in each ch of 2, ch 2, shell on shell, ch 4, shell on shell, dc in 1st st of ch, ch 3, turn.

9th row.—Shell on shell, ch 2, catch under both 4 ch with sc, ch 2, shell on shell, sc in each dc, (catching into back part of st), sc in 1st st of ch 3, ch 1, turn.

10th row.—Sc in each sc (in back part of st), turn at the end, ch 3, sc in 2d sc, ch 2, repeat to end, turn.

11th row.—Ch 5, sc in 5th st of ch 5, ch 1, sc in ch 2, repeat to end of scallop, ch 1, shell on shell, ch 4, shell on shell, dc in 1st st of ch; this completes one scallop. Fasten 1st and 2d picots of next scallop to the two last picots of preceding scallop.

These patterns are indeed beautiful, Mrs. Ellis; and to those of you who love to crochet, I will whisper a secret. Mrs. Frank Packard has promised to be here next month, and bring directions for a crocheted baby's sack, and some more edging. Now isn't that good news? I don't believe we shall hear any more grumbling now.

"Something for the knitters," did you say, Mrs. Limberger? Yes, it is only fair that they should have their turn; did you bring something?

"I have seen several requests for a quilt stripe, and would like you all to try mine."

STRIPES FOR KNITTED QUILT.

Cast up 21 stitches, knit across plain.
1st row.—3 plain, 7 seam, 1 plain, 7 seam, 3 plain.

2d row.—4 plain, over, 5 plain, over, slip 1 st, narrow, pass slip st over, over, 5 plain, over, 4 plain.

3d row.—3 plain, 17 seam, 3 plain.

4th row.—4 plain, over, 1 plain, narrow, 1 seam, narrow, 1 plain, over, 1 seam, over, 1 plain, narrow, 1 seam, narrow, 1 plain, over, 4 plain.

5th row.—3 plain, 4 seam, 1 plain, 3 seam, 1 plain, 4 seam, 3 plain.

6th row.—4 plain, over, 1 plain, narrow, 1 seam, narrow, 1 plain, over, 1 seam, over, 1 plain, narrow, 1 seam, narrow, 1 plain, over, 4 plain.

7th row.—3 plain, 4 seam, 1 plain, 2 seam, 1 plain, 2 seam, 1 plain, 4 seam, 3 plain.

8th row.—4 plain, over, 1 plain, over, narrow, 1 seam, narrow, 1 seam, narrow, 1 seam, narrow, over, 1 plain, over, 4 plain.

9th row.—3 plain, 5 seam, 1 plain, 1 seam, 1 plain, 1 seam, 1 plain, 5 seam, 3 plain.

10th row.—4 plain, over, 3 plain, over, slip 1, narrow, pass slip st over, 1 seam, slip 1, narrow, pass slip st over, over, 3 plain, over, 4 plain. Repeat from 1st row until desired length.

"I would like to see some directions for tatting given among the Bees," says Mrs. M. E. Keene of Statesburgh, S. C. "And as I cannot understand the terms used in crocheting very well, will not some of the sisters exchange crochet samples with me for tatting patterns? I do a good deal of both."

Tatting is hard to describe, but I wish the Bees would bring directions for some pretty kind, with a sample. Now Cousin Kate, that isn't fair—what are you and the girls doing off in that corner? Just come out and show your work to us all. If you are making something pretty, we want to try it too.

"Well, we didn't care about the knitted quilt stripe, so I thought I would just be telling the girls how to make a few little things. Just now we were trying a

PANSY MAT.

Crochet with white single zephyr wool, 5 chain sts. Join these in a circle and crochet round and round in dc till you have increased to 84 sts, making a circle about 6 inches in diameter, and taking care by suitable increases to keep it flat as possible. The next row is worked with very dark green single zephyr in sc all round, crocheting between instead of in each st. The next row is done in lemon-colored zephyr, working between every green stitch 4 dc sts. The last row is worked in shaded purple zephyr, getting that which has the darkest shades. Begin this row with one chain stitch, then 6 dc between the groups of 4 dc in the preceding row; then 1 ch and catch over in the middle of each yellow group. Repeat in this way all around, when finished the border of the mat looks like a full ruffle. Now take 5 of the purple shells, and join the 1st and 5th lightly underneath. Then skip 2 shells, take 5 more and proceed as before. This has the effect of a circle of pansies laid closely together. To make a larger mat, add 7 sts on the last white row for each additional pansy.

WHISK BROOM HOLDER.

Cover 2 pieces cardboard about 6 inches square, with red silesia. Then with macrame twine crochet a piece in shell st just large enough to cover it all over. Make a row of scallops top and bottom; tie ribbon on the handle, and bows at the sides.

NARROW LACE.

Cast on 8 stitches.
1st row.—Knit 2, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow, over twice, narrow.

2d row.—Knit 2, pur 1, knit 2, pur 1, knit 2, pur 1, knit 2, knit 5 rows plain.

8th row.—Bind off 3, knit the rest plain. Repeat from 1st row.

Here is Wisconsin Blossom among us again; and what have you for us this time?

"Yes, as I was so kindly received before I ventured to come again with a few pretty trifles, which I hope will be of use to the Bees. Will begin with

A PEN WIPER.

Get a small Japanese fan (can get them for 3 cents at any store, cut leaves a little smaller than the fan) of chamolais skin, pink the edges and fasten at the back of fan. Gild the handle and tie a ribbon on the end.

TOILET BOTTLES.

Cover any prettily shaped bottles with glue and sift sand over them; let dry then bronze or gild.

PHOTOGRAPH HOLDER.

A wire toaster gilded and tied with a ribbon

or cord, with the handle bent back for support, makes a pretty Christmas present.

COLLAR AND CUFF BOXES.

Sand paper all lettering from a deep cigar box, line with plush or velvet, fasten a piece of good mirror on inside of cover with glue. Cut a piece of velvet or plush just the size of cover, cut from center a piece not quite so large as mirror; make a diagonal cut in each corner of this frame of velvet, turn the edges in and stitch with silk. Glue this in place as frame for mirror on lid. Paint delicate spray of flowers on the outside or oil thoroughly, ebonize, or bronze. The long shallow ones make collar or handkerchief boxes and the deep ones for cuffs.

But who is this at the door? Come in, sister worker, do not stand outside. Why, it is Mrs. Mullikin of Frankfurt, Ind.

"May I come in, Bees? I want to tell you how I made a pretty

RUG.

If you are as well pleased with your work as I was, you will not begrudge the time. Take the best cloth out of worn men's clothes, cut out 96 pieces about the size of the top of a tumbler, 48 of which are of light cloth and 48 of dark. Cut same number small pieces, about 1-8 as large as first, half dark and half light. Button-hole all with fancy colored worsted. Then place a small light piece in the centre of large dark piece and vice versa, fastening them with cross stitch. Place on orange colored calico in shape of six point star. To fill out corners, take white worked with red, red center piece. Bind edge with red.

Will some one tell me how to prepare the bisque and make the bisque flowers for stand throws? If flowers are made in moulds, where can they be obtained?

Laura F. wants directions for a knitted or crocheted purse; can some Bee tell her next time?

Oh, must you go so soon? Surely it is not late enough in the afternoon to be so dark—why, where is our beautiful sunshiny day? I declare, it rains like a mill-race coming down. Your umbrellas will be needed sure enough, and you were wise to bring them. Good-bye, a full meeting next time!

Contributions solicited for this department. Please write on one side of paper only, and accompany directions for edging with a sample. I cannot answer private letters, or give addresses. Address all letters to

BUSY BEE, (Care of COMFORT Pub. Co.)

HOW TO MAKE A START IN LIFE.

Dear Readers:—It would be easy for young people to start successfully if they could only borrow the experience of old people. After working hard for forty years and trying seven different occupations, I am still obliged to work. I read of money being made plating watches, jewelry and tableware. I bought a machine for \$5 from H. F. Delno & Co. of Columbus, Ohio. It plates gold, silver or nickel on all kinds of metal. I made \$3 the first day, \$21 the first week and if I don't grow old too fast I'll make a stake yet.

A PIONEER.

PRINTING OUTFIT 15¢

COMPLETE. 4 alphabets rubber type, type holder, bottle In-Visible Ink, Ink Pad and Tweezers. Put up in neat box with directions for use. Satisfaction guaranteed. Worth 50¢. Best Linen Marker, Card Printer, etc. Sets names in 1 minute, prints 500 cards an hour. Sent postpaid 15¢; 2 for 25¢. Cat. free. R. H. INGERSOLL & BRO. 65 Cortland St. N. Y. City.



To introduce them, one in every County or town furnished reliable persons (either sex) who will promise to show it. Excelsior Music Box Co., Box 125, N. Y. City.

MENTION THIS PAPER WHEN YOU WRITE

LOVELY FACES,
WHITE HANDS.

Nothing will
WHITEN and CLEAR
the skin so quickly as

Derma-Royale

The new discovery for dissolving and removing discolorations from the cuticle, and bleaching and brightening the complexion. In experimenting in the laundry with a new bleach it was discovered that all spots, freckles, tan and other discolorations were quickly removed from the hands and arms without the slightest injury to the skin.

The discovery was submitted to experienced Dermatologists and Physicians who prepared for us the formula of the marvelous Derma-Royale. THERE NEVER WAS ANYTHING LIKE IT. It is perfectly harmless and so simple a child can use it. Apply at night—the improvement apparent after a single application will surprise and delight you. It quickly dissolves and removes the worst forms of moth-patches, brown or liver spots, freckles, black-heads, blotches, sallowness, redness, tan and every discoloration of the cuticle. One bottle completely removes and cures the most aggravated cases and thoroughly clears and whitens the complexion. It has never failed—Dr. CAYCE PAT. It is highly recommended by Physicians and its sure results warrant us in offering

\$500 REWARD.—To assure the public of its merits we agree to forfeit Five Hundred Dollars cash, for any case of moth-patches, brown spots, liver spots, black-heads, ugly or muddy skin, unnatural redness, freckles, tan or any other cutaneous discolorations, (excepting birth-marks, scars, and those of a scrofulous nature) that Derma-Royale will not quickly remove and cure. We also agree to forfeit Five Hundred Dollars to any person whose skin can be injured in the slightest possible manner, or for any complexion (no matter how bad condition it may be), that the use of Derma-Royale will not clear, whiten, improve and beautify.

Put up in elegant style in large eight-ounce bottles. Price, \$2.00. EVERY BOTTLE GUARANTEED. FREE BOTTLES TO PROVE ITS MERITS.

To advertise and quickly introduce Derma-Royale, 5,000 full size \$2.00 bottles have been provided for free distribution, one of which will be sent, safely packed in patent wooden box, (securely sealed from observation), safe delivery guaranteed, to anyone sending us their post-office address and ONE DOLLAR to help pay for this advertisement, boxing and other expenses, and who after having been benefited, will mention Derma-Royale to their acquaintances. Send money by registered letter or money order to insure its safe delivery. Postage stamps received as cash. Correspondence sacredly private. Address

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Cut this ad. out and send to us and we will send you this beautiful Solid Gold plated watch, by express and if you do not find it equal to any watch retailed at \$28.00 and worth 4 times the price we ask you not pay one cent, otherwise pay the express and watch is yours. The movement is a full jeweled Elgin style lever, expansion balance, quick train (3600 beats) with oil tempered Pinion and Hair Spring. It is a durable and accurate time keeper. The case is made of composition metal over which is placed 3 plates solid 14 K Gold. This watch is fully warranted 15 years. In carrying this watch you have the credit of owning a solid gold watch and for use is just as desirable. State which wanted Ladies or Gents size also your post and express office and full amount (\$6.00) with order we will send by reg. mail and by express if you prefer. Chain which would cost you nearly the price of watch.

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Our new powerful, triple, interchangeable Microscope, with its mammoth lenses reveals all the magnifying power of the heretofore invisible world, being perfected with an insect holder and a lintel for stagnant water, dried insects, etc., it answers for a thousand purposes. This elegant polished brass finished gem is an instructor, as well as a great convenience in reading, etc. It has all the contrivances for handling butterflies and other beauties. The top of the instrument can be removed to insert objects for inspection, which include not only seed and grain, but hundreds of other materials, such as insects, bits of cloth, paper, fur, hairs, leaves, flowers, stones, ores, etc.; in fact, anything small enough to insert. It is valuable in detecting adulterations in food, such as flour, tea, coffee, sugar, spices and the fatal trichina spirals or pork worm. Agents will find this to be the fastest selling article they have ever handled, for its novelty and the wonders it reveals excite the curiosity of the people and they will buy. It sells at sight everywhere. The agent is not considered a bore while showing it, for it interests every one. Each microscope is sent securely packed in a box. Price only 37 cts.; 3 for \$1.00. They have generally sold for \$1.00 singly, but buying in large quantities, we get a low price. Send today and we include a 3 months trial subscription to COMFORT.

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to the first persons who will tell us what two words in this advertisement spell the same backward as forward.

For the First correct answer, - - - cash \$200
To the Second " " " " " " " " 100
To the Third " " " " " " " " 75
To the Fourth " " " " " " " " 50
To each of the next Twenty, \$5.00 each " 100
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Total Prizes in Cash, \$625

Did you ever enter one of our contests? We pay every prize and can prove it. You need not hesitate on that account.

Answers must reach us on or before June 10th. With your answer send 25c. postal note or \$50c. in stamps, for one quarter's subscription to our 16 page Monthly Paper. Our June issue will announce the result of the contest, with names and addresses of the winners. This offer is made solely to advertise our publication and introduce it into new homes. In addition to the above we shall give a Warranty Deed for 100 Choice House or Business Lots near New York City, worth not less than \$25 to \$100 each. We shall promptly give all the prizes offered here. Write your name and address plainly and enclose subscription money to

CANWELL & CO., 41 Beekman St., N. Y.

PRIZES SENT SAME DAY

ANSWERS ARE RECEIVED.

The above rebus represents the name of one of the oldest and largest States in the Union. What State is it? To the first person who sends a correct answer before Tuesday, May 31st, 1892, we will give

\$200.00 IN CASH

To the second \$100.00 Cash. To the third, \$50 Cash. To each of the next 10, A Solid Gold Watch (not plated but Solid Gold), with genuine American movement. To each of the next five, A \$50 Singer Improved High Arm Sewing Machine. To each of the next ten, A Handsome Silk Dress Pattern of 14 to 18 Yards. You can choose between black, gray, blue, green, brown or wine color, and we will send the color of your choice. To the next twenty-five we will give to each one a handsome Genuine Solid Nickel Silver Cased WATCH stem wind and set with genuine American movement. To each of the next five hundred (if there be so many who send correct answers) we will give a handsome present.

We send these premiums the same as your guess is received, all express charges prepaid to the limit of this offer. With your answer to the rebus, we require you to send thirty cents, and we will mail you our 16-page, 64 column paper, "The American Household Journal," regularly for six months. The June issues of all our publications will announce the result of this offer, and the name and full address of every prize winner will be printed. This offer is made solely to advertise our publications and introduce them into new homes. We are well able and shall promptly give all the prizes offered here—square dealing is our motto. Postage stamps taken—we use them. Give your full name and P. O. address. Our address is:

The American Household Journal,
216 Washington St., Jersey City, N. J.



(These papers commenced in "Comfort" for September 1891. Back numbers can be had at any time.)

The ridiculous figure out by Maria Jagger at the last meeting of the club, when, after valiantly asserting her intention of maintaining the independence of her sex against mankind in general, and her husband in particular, she ignominiously retreated from her position the moment her husband spoke to her, set the rest of the members thinking whether it was not likely that many of their number were similarly constituted. It was one thing to decry the male sex and its shortcomings when they were in conference together—it was quite a different affair when in the presence of their lords and masters.

Nobody had been more consistently resentful against man and his assumption of authority over woman than Mrs. Jagger. She was regarded as the most advanced champion of women's rights, she was always the loudest in her denunciation of the tyranny of the male species. Was it not therefore possible, even probable, that the majority of the most clamorous against husband-rule, were, in the privacy of their own homes, veritable slaves to their partners?

This conviction rooted itself so deeply into the minds of the younger and unmarried members of the Tattleback Tea Table Club that their faith in the leading principles of their association became considerably shaken after the Jagger episode.

The young ladies had many talks among themselves during the month. Miss Wing, Miss Hayrick, Miss Rubenstein and others held several surreptitious meetings and a revolutionary movement was started with the object of discountenancing any further attacks that might be made against the gentlemen.

When you come to think of it, there is a great difficulty in inducing young and marriageable girls to think harsh things about the men. No matter how bad a fellow may be, if he is handsome the girls have an excuse ready for him. So it was really not surprising that the repeated and violent attacks on the sterner sex by their elders at the club, disgusted quite a number of the young ladies and somewhat alienated any affection they might have had for the organization.

Miss Wing and Miss Hayrick discovered upon examining the book of membership that the majority of the names there belonged to young and unmarried women. A private canvass of these persons showed that they were against the club—as at present constituted—to a woman. They had grown tired of hearing the men abused, and also objected to having the club "bossed" by married women. Miss Rubenstein had another objection to the ladies of the club. They were, in her opinion, sadly lacking in style, and took no pains whatever to dress. This, she thought, was very reprehensible conduct in a lady. She thought that the young ladies of Tattleback could afford to dress in the fashion, and ought to do so. Miss Finnegan was very enthusiastic on the point of being in the fashion, and when she was informed of the movement on foot by the discontents, her true Hibernian instincts to oppose anything in the shape of a government asserted themselves in great revolutionary style.

There was quite a commotion in the club room at the next meeting, when, after the usual routine of business had been transacted, Miss Wing rose and made a motion "to exclude from future debates in the club, all subjects in the ventilation, or discussion of which, it became necessary for any lady to abuse the men."

Miss Hayrick, in seconding the motion, said that she thought this antagonism to the male sex was ridiculous and unwomanly, and she also believed very hypocritical.

Several of the elder ladies were on their feet in an instant, and all wished to speak at once, but Dorothy's gavel soon restored order. She spoke herself.

"I am almost dumb," she said, "at the astounding proposition made by our worthy secretary. One of the principal objects of the club has been to maintain our rights as women, and curtail the authority of the men. To succeed we must be united."

A DIVIDED CLUB
can effect nothing, and I trust that both Miss Wing and Miss Hayrick will wisely withdraw that absurd motion at once, and let us proceed to some common sense business!"

But the two young ladies named did nothing of the kind. On the contrary they insisted on their motion being discussed or put to the meeting as to its adoption or rejection. Dorothy smilingly complied with this request and took a vote on the resolution then and there. But to her intense astonishment and disgust, and the horror of the men haters present, the motion was carried by a vote of 61 to 27!

When the numbers became known, Dorothy turned very pale, and in a low voice announced her intention of resigning from the presidency. This information was received in silence, which was broken by Mrs. Pullet, who also tendered her resignation as vice-president. She said that if the fundamental principle of the club was going to be abolished, she saw no reason why she should remain in office any longer.

Mrs. Jones said that if there was going to be a split in the association, she would be compelled to adhere to her colleagues, and if these resignations were to be accepted, hers must be taken also.

A vote on the resignations showed exactly the same proportion of members for accepting them, and Dorothy, Maria and Selma vacated their places of honor with a great display of injured dignity.

Miss Finnegan almost immediately proposed Miss Wing to succeed Mrs. Cripps as President, and the tumultuous cheering among the young people showed this to be a popular nomination. The show of hands was enough without taking a vote, so Miss Wing complacently took the chair just vacated by Dorothy.

She then named Miss Hayrick as vice-president to succeed Mrs. Pullet, and as no other candidate was named she was declared elected. Nellie Tabbs and Miss Rubenstein were respectively chosen as secretary and treasurer.

While the younger members were crowding around the newly appointed officers to offer their congratulations, Mrs. Cripps, Mrs. Jagger, Mrs. Traggles, and a dozen other married women resolved to go to Mrs. Jones' house and talk the matter over amongst themselves. As they filed out of the room with their noses in the air, and an assumed look of contempt upon their faces, they reminded one of the exit of the Democratic party from power after the last election. No sooner had the door closed behind them than Bridget jumped on a form and cried out, "Three cheers for the new officers!" These were given with a will, and then Miss Wing inaugurated her presidency as follows:

"Ladies, when, in the course of human events, a voice, 'Chestnut!' it becomes necessary for one body of people to disagree with another body of people the exercise of our constitutional right to maintain our opinions becomes a duty as well as a pleasure. We had reason to disagree with the late officials of the Tattleback Tea Table Club and a few of its members, and we have vindicated our belief by constitutional means. To tell the truth we needed a little young blood infused into the management, or we were likely to die of dry rot. Now girls, as you have elected me your president, I mean to make things hum, and don't you forget it! (loud cheers). We have got to wake up from our dreams of conquering man! If all of us can conquer and capture the one we want I guess we'll be pretty well satisfied without wanting to wear the pants after we have got him! ('hear hear!') We played a bold game to-night but we won it, and I want to thank you all for standing to your guns. Henceforth this club will be run on more liberal principles, and I wish you all to understand that on certain holiday occasions we may feel disposed to allow the presence of your sweethearts!" (Loud applause.)



GOING TO WAIST

Miss Hayrick, who was received with wild cheering, said that there could be no doubt but what the club had heretofore been a kind of stumbling block in the way of a girl's matrimonial chances. The young fellows were afraid of having anything to do with young ladies who were members, because the club had gained an unenviable reputation as a school for 'women's rights' doctrines. Now, that sort of thing is all very well for old maids and cranky wives, but it is a great drawback to a young woman's future. Let us be more enlightened, more liberal minded. There isn't one among us has a hankering after being an old maid. And there are lots of young men nowadays whose efforts are going to waist, because girls—that is, good and sensible girls—are scarce. Let us show the male sex that we are worthy to be their equals and their wives, but we can do that without 'sitting on' the men, though a nice young fellow's knee isn't a bad place to sit when a girl is tired!" (laughter.)

"I believe," exclaimed Nellie Tabbs the new secretary, "I believe that this change is decidedly for the good of the club, and the benefit of the town, and for my part I should not care if the lately defeated President and her friends never returned to the club at all. Their ideas are too rigid for us girls, and I—"

"Begorra Miss Wing, I have it!" shouted Bridget suddenly, as she leaped to her feet excitedly. "I have it, as sure as you're born!"

"Have what Bridget—the grip?" asked one.

"Measles, Miss Finnegan?" interrogated another.

"Nayther, if you please!" replied Bridget with a smile. "But I have an idea that bates the devil himself!"

"Well, what is it, Bridget? let us hear it," said Miss Wing impatiently.

"We've bin schamin' and striving for the last six months to close the drinking club up the street," continued Bridget, "but even with the law on our side, the devil a ha'porth did we succeed. But bedad, I think I know how to close that club up."

"How Bridget?"

"Thry coakin', not drivin'!"

"What do you mean?"

"I mane that if the girls here would only make a practice of inviting the young fellows to this club for a dance or a jig, or a bit of fun, shure they'd desert the other place in crowds and it would bust up for want of customers. Give any decent young man his choice of a pretty girl's company or a glass of whiskey, and see how quick he'll grab a hould of her!"

"An excellent suggestion Bridget!" said Miss Wing, "and one worth experimenting upon. At any rate we will consider it before the next meeting. And now, Miss Finnegan, if we can depend upon your good offices for a cup of tea, and something to eat, we will adjourn to the supper room and talk about the latest Paris fashions!"

[TO BE CONTINUED.]

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OLD COINS WANTED. \$1,000 for 1894 dollar, \$5.75 for 1893 quarter, \$2 for 1892 ct., and Big Prices for 900 other kinds as required. Send stamp for particulars. W. E. Skinner, 325 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

A PRESENT. SEND us your address and we will make you a present of the best Automatic WASHING MACHINE in the World. No washboard or wringer needed. We want you to show it to your friends, or act as agent if you can. You can COIN MONEY. We also give a HANDSOME WATCH to the first from each county. Write quick. Address: N. Y. LAUNDRY WORKS, 80 Murray Street, N. Y.

HOW TO MAKE A FORTUNE. WANTED—Salesmen; who can easily make twenty-five to seventy-five dollars per week, selling the Celebrated "Pinless Clothes Line," or the Famous "Macomber Fountain Ink Eraser"—Patents recently issued. Sold ONLY by salesmen, to whom we give Exclusive Territory. The Pinless Clothes Line is the only line ever invented that holds clothes without pins—a perfect success. The Macomber Fountain Ink Eraser is entirely new; will erase ink instantly, and is king of all. On receipt of 50c will mail you sample of either, or sample of both for \$1, with circulars, price-lists and terms. Secure your territory at once. Address THE PINLESS CLOTHES LINE CO., No. 121 Hermon St., Worcester, Mass.

Plays 300 Tunes Hymns, Songs, & Dance Music. No paper used, but metallic rollers, making delightful music. Plays a tune as long as desired. Reeds organ size. Beautifully finished, resembling Mahogany, decorated gilt and silver keys.

Wonderful Roller-Organ If you want the Best send direct to the Makers. We will please you. Just what you want to make home happy. Send \$6.00 with this notice and we will send Organ at once, all complete. Satisfaction, or money refunded. Address BATES ORGAN CO., 74 Pearl Street, BOSTON, Mass.

A sample organ FREE. If you want one, cut this notice out and send to us at once.

Dear Sir: We KNOW that the only preparation in all the world that will effect the magical results herein shown, AND NEITHER FAIL, AMRITA, or Juice of the India Soma Plant. We will be glad to send a trial case of Amrita free of expense to any man who desires to test its marvelous qualities. Address The Webber Institute, COLUMBUS, OHIO.

IS THIS WHAT AILS YOU? Do you feel generally miserable, or suffer with a thousand and one indescribable bad feelings, both mental and physical, among them low spirits, nervousness, weariness, listlessness, weakness, dizziness, feelings of fullness or bloating after eating, or sense of "congestion" or emptiness of stomach in morning, flesh soft and lacking firmness, headache, blurring of eyesight, specks floating before the eyes, nervous irritability, poor memory, chilliness, alternating with hot flushes, lassitude, throbbing, gurgling or rumbling sensations in bowels, with heat and slipping pains occasionally, palpitation of heart, short breath on exertion, slow circulation of blood, cold feet, pain and oppression in chest and back, pain around the loins, aching and weariness of the lower limbs, drowsiness after meals but nervous wakefulness at night, languor in the morning, and a constant feeling of dread as if something awful was about to happen?

If you have any or all of these symptoms, send 40 cents to me, and I will send you, postpaid, some simple and harmless powders, pleasant to take and easy directions, which, if you follow, will positively and effectually cure in from one to three weeks' time, no matter how bad you may be. Few have suffered from these causes more than I, and fewer still at my age (53) are in more perfect health than I am now. The same means will cure you.

GEO. N. STODDARD, Druggist, Buffalo, N. Y.

A GREAT SEED SACRIFICE. A \$10,000 Loss turned to your Gain.

CHOICEST FLOWER SEEDS come from France and Germany; some rare varieties often bring a dollar for a single seed. A large importing house had an immense shipment of the finest grown seeds ever brought to America, and, as you see, in unloading at the pier, an awful accident occurred. Now, as each kind must be put up in small, separate papers, this would have been a complete loss, but, hearing of it, and knowing its value, we bought the whole cargo of exquisite flowering seeds, getting in the whole assortment some of the highest cost kinds ever grown. We have thoroughly mixed them, all kinds, and put them up in elegant packets, containing over 200 varieties, to give away as premiums to COMFORT. All you have to do is to send them in a box, and when they get large enough to transplant, you can set them out, and have a most elegant flower garden for nothing, and, as the rare seeds are mixed in, you obtain what has sold for dollars and dollars for nothing, and in the Summer and Fall can pluck beautiful bouquets of Pansies, Petunias, Asters, as well as the many rare flowers here shown.

Special. Having found a box of LATE-CRAZE-IN-CHRYSANTHEMUM seed in the lot all safe, we are going to enclose one package of this popular seed also.

OUR OFFER is this: To every one sending us 12 cents for a 3 months' subscription to COMFORT, we will send perfectly free, postpaid, these packets of seeds and our ELEGANT BOOK OF SEEDS, as a guide to the culture of all flowers and plants. Its many pages are loaded down with practical hints and helps to everybody, on all sorts of plant life, and describes how to arrange fancy window and garden decorations; is worth a half-dollar to any one, but, being determined that you and all your friends shall take COMFORT 3 months longer, we give all of these free if only 12 cents is sent to pay postage and expense. 4 subscriptions and 6 lots for 60 cents.

\$100.00 CASH GIVEN AWAY! BEST YET. To the person sending in the greatest number of these 12-cent subscriptions, at rate of 6 FOR 60 CENTS, before June 1st, we give a cash present of \$100.00; to the second largest, \$25.00; to the third, \$15.00; to the fourth, \$10.00. Remember, you get 12 cents for every copy of COMFORT at club rates, then you stand a chance to secure your part of the ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS. Can any Publisher be more liberal than this? Send your 12 cents to-day for sample lot of Seed Packets, Manual and Magazine, then get up clubs. Address MORSE & CO., SEED DEPT., Augusta, Maine.

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MY DEAR FRIENDS:

Is not April, with its capricious sunshine and showers, a type of our changing life here below? And if there often seem to be more clouds than sunshine, it is the love of the all-wise Father who sends them, as He sends the raindrops on the flowers to make them bloom more brightly.

If this world were all sunshine, we should never wish for the home beyond, but always be content to stay here, out of sight of our Father's face.

"I thank Thee, Lord, that here our souls

Though amply blest,

Can never find, although they seek,

A perfect rest;

Nor ever shall, until they lean

On Jesus' breast."

Here is a letter from one who, though afflicted, is still living in the sunshine.

Dear Aunt Minerva and the many cousin readers of COMFORT:—I wish you all a happy, pleasant good-morning, with God's love and sunshine around you; but should any one of you feel the burden of this life heavy, then remember the dear Saviour's many promises to His children; one is, "And, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." I doubt not if we could see with a spiritual eye, how often we could see the angels smiling upon us and watching over us in our trials through this life. I live on the beautiful prairies in Nebraska, where there are more sunny days than anywhere I have ever lived, and oh, how comforting it is to live a life of sunshine, patience and contentment, and to put our trust in God, who can deliver us out of all tribulation. I thank you dear Aunt, for the many comforting and encouraging words that you give us sorely afflicted ones. I am also a helpless one, for years I have not been able to help myself or turn over in bed, but I know that these light afflictions will work out for us a far greater and exceeding weight of glory that the good Lord will give all the faithful, and they shall dwell in His mansions in Heaven forever and ever.

Geo. A. CLOPINE, Cortland, Nebr.

Dr. Anthony is always welcome among us. I am sure you have all learned to greet him as an old friend, and will be glad to find another of his interesting letters this month.

"To those who have kindly taken the trouble to write me that my letter in December COMFORT had been a source of pleasure, I avail myself of this means to thank them for the sympathy expressed. To the many who have mailed me sermons, tracts, and religious publications, I would say that I appreciate the motive which prompted it.

"I wonder if it ever occurs to those who send reading matter to invalids, that something of a different character occasionally would be acceptable. I am not speaking for myself now, for I am well supplied with all kinds, and read only what pleases and interests me. Instead of all religious matter, why not sandwich in once in a while, something of Mark Twain, Jerome K. Jerome, Frank Stockton or Robert Burdette. A good laugh is better medicine than pill or potion, and a good story will often serve a better purpose with most of us than a sermon. It is of no use to try to convert a person who is suffering from the lack of bodily nourishment. A man with an empty stomach is in no condition to appreciate the beauties or benefits of religion. First minister to the physical wants and then the spiritual ones will be more likely to receive attention.

"The patient suffering from disease and racked with pain, who is wholly upon religious literature, will surely suffer from a moral indigestion. Season his mental diet with the condiments of wit and mirth, and it will be the better assimilated. Pleasure is as legitimate as prayer; it is necessary in its way to growth and development. If one has experienced both pleasure and pain, prayer will be a fuller expression of the man. In an institution of which I once had medical charge, was obliged to refuse the further visitation of one minister who always had a depressing effect upon my patients, while others of his profession were always welcome.

There are none of us but what can find something to be thankful for, if we will only look for it. Many of the physical ills and a great many of the mental ones are aggravated by worry and anticipation of trouble that never comes. The theological hell can be no worse than the one we can make for ourselves by fashioning our lives the wrong way. Joe Jefferson, in his portrayal of the character of Rip Van Winkle, says at every fresh dereliction and violation of his pledge, "This time won't count." Well, maybe he won't count it, but it is being counted nevertheless. Down among the nerve cells and fibres, the molecules are counting it, and storing it up to be used against him when the temptation next comes.

"Let the chronic sufferers cultivate the effort to bear their ills patiently, and they will make it easier for those whose duty it is to minister to their needs, and at the same time will find that their own burdens will seem less heavy. There are times when the clouds seem to encompass us and to hang so low that it requires a great amount of faith to believe that above them the sun is shining.

"I wish I could get you at least to agree to take life as it is, and consider with me, If it be not all smiles, it is not all sneers. It admits honest laughter, it admits honest tears. Do you think none have known but yourself all the pain

Of hopes that retreat, of regrets that remain? What one of us finds the world just as he likes? Or gets what he wants when he wants it? Or walks without stumbling? Or quenches his thirst At one draught?

God means every man to be happy, be sure, He sends us no sorrows that have not some cure. Our duty down here is to do, not to know. Live as though life were earnest, and life will be so."

W. E. ANTHONY, M.D., Providence, R. I.

In my own observation of invalids, I have proved the truth of Dr. Anthony's words in regard to reading. Even those whose Christian life and faith were most wonderfully sweet and strong, did not desire to be always poring over religious literature, but liked to have their minds diverted by a good work of fiction, and their hearts cheered by some of the world's merry-makers. God has given us these good things to enjoy, the soul-stirring works of our great novelists, the merry quips of our humorists (God bless them!) I believe they have saved many a soul from despair; and I cannot see that we do Him any special service by neglecting them for a constant study of religious writings which are but human and fallible after all. So that we do not neglect His Word, I believe that it means for us to enjoy "whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely," in the realm of books, as everywhere else in His world.

"I want to say a few words in regard to the letter of

Maria Johnson. I think it was very sensible, and those who condemn her are like Mr. Sampson in the story of 'Jack Bowdoin's Conversion,' egotistical and fanatical. Such people do more harm in visiting the sick, with their long drawn faces and funeral looks, than all the novels and light reading a sick person or a 'Shut In' could read. If a person's mind is kept full of dying, they are pretty sure to die. Nothing like will power, and 'never give up the ship' has carried many a one through. Then keep their thoughts lively by a story or other ways, and their chances are far better for recovery. Let the fanatics rant, and others abuse, but I for one send her good cheer, and if I knew her choice of reading, as I have several good novels, and that she would like them, I would gladly send them to her. Cousin Maria, you have my best wishes.

Your COMFORT cousin,

B. K."

"Comforting little paper, you may tell your readers that I like you very much, and think you grow better all the time. May I tell the dear 'Shut Ins' of a lesson I had regarding prayer with faith, by a little child? New Year's Day some one gave my little 5 year old Maude a big doll carriage. She wished for a big doll, but I told her she could not have it, and nothing more was said. A few days ago she had a pair of shoes for a big doll given her. She came to me and said, 'Mama, let's say our prayers.' I asked her what for, and this was her reply: 'Now I have a carriage and shoes for a big doll, and I am going to ask the good Lord to give me a doll if He thinks best; and if He don't, I will be a good girl and play with my little ones.' Dear friends, is it not beautiful, the faith of a little child? How happy we should be if we could leave everything to him. Is there one of the band of COMFORT 'Shut Ins' who can only wear one shoe? I have one for the right foot; would like to exchange for the left, size 3 E. May God bless COMFORT and its many readers.

Mrs. L. CLINE, Packwaukee, Wisc.

"Just as God leads me, I would go; I would not ask to choose my way; Content with what He will bestow, Assured He will not let me stray. So as He leads, my path I make, And step by step I gladly take, A child in Him confiding."

Dear Aunt:—Will you let me come in to this corner and have a talk with the dear friends of your band? I want to thank some unknown friend for the dollar sent me. I feel more grateful than I can say, and also to Aunt and the kind editor for printing my letters. COMFORT is indeed a comfort to us poor weary ones. In our column I shall look into the sick rooms, and whisper the precious name of Jesus. Let us take everything to Jesus in prayer, for He is pitiful and full of tender mercy, and will help us bear our burden if we love and serve Him. When I first wrote to COMFORT, I felt so sad and cast down. My health is no better, yet I feel better, I get so many kind letters and other tokens of love to cheer me. With love and kind wishes to all. Mrs. S. A. TEAGUE, Empire, Ky.

Blessings on the kind hearts who are thus cheering these lonely lives! Only a kind letter—how easy that is to write!—or a little gift in His Name, but it may be a ray of sunshine to some suffering soul. More volunteers are wanted for this good work of sunshine making.

Some kind friends have offered to send reading matter, as follows: "I will send copies of 'Youth's Companion,' 'Wide Awake,' 'Scribner's,' and other good reading to those sending postage. Miss F. BROWN, Guilph, N. Y."

"I will send reading matter (some books) to those sending postage. A. DWIGHT GOZA, Hatchett Creek, Ala."

"I have a lot of Sunday-school papers which I will send to any one wishing them. ANNIE GILMORE, Mountain Dale, Pa."

Names of those needing our help in various ways—letters, reading, etc. Mr. B. C. Knight, Enfield, N. C. Mrs. E. Lee, Rogers, Benton Co., Ark. Menia Leavens, Thompson, Ill. Miss Bettie Pergem, Olympia, Ky. Mrs. Sallie B. Jones, Helms, Va. Harrie Kinsey, Helms, Va. (a little "Shut In.")

AUNT MINERVA, (Care of COMFORT.)

AN OLD RULE.

"If you do not see what you want ask for it." The Provident fund society of New York City is ready to answer all questions in reference to accident insurance. Professional men now unemployed if they desire a light, pleasant and lucrative employment can secure such by addressing the above institution.

OH MY! Boys & Girls, do you like fun? Try our Button Busters, 10cts, Gray & Low, Augusta, Maine.

OUR NEW MAMMOTH SAMPLE BOOK FOR OF genuine latest style Cards in chromo, No. 1000. Send 2c. for postage. STEAR CARD CO., Louisville, Ky.

Agents Coin money selling our Nickel-Plated Broom and Dust Pan Holder. Sample and terms. J. R. FERGUSON & CO., Chester, Conn. 10c

Fill Your OWN Teeth with Crystalline. Stops Pain and Decay. Lasts a Lifetime. Circular Free. T. F. TRUMAN, M.D., Wells Bridge, N. Y.

AGENTS \$12 PER DAY is averaged by some of our Agents, and their sales are made easier every month in the same old territory. AGENTS, TRY US! Address EAST INDIA CO., Jersey City, N. J.

Coffee, Spices & Extracts direct from Importers to Consumers. For 16 years we have been offering Premiums to Clubs and large buyers, of Dinner, Tea and Toilet Sets, Silver Ware, Table Linen, Lace Curtains, etc., all of our own importation, and bought for Cash direct from manufacturers. Our fully illustrated 136-page Catalogue will interest, and we will be pleased to mail YOU one upon receipt of your address. LONDON TEA CO., 815, Wash. St., Boston.

YOU ARE RUPTURED We Can Cure You
It will cost you nothing. Send 2c stamp. HAYDEN CO., No. Windham, Me.

GIVEN AWAY
For 30 days

livery to you. You buy the frame where you choose. We have testimonials from every State, and bank references. Write name on back of picture, and send with the 2c. within 30 days; you will receive a fine life-like portrait, all charges prepaid by us. ARTISTS' UNION, 317 Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill.

FREE TO EVERY READER OF THIS REBUS.

1200 of these beautiful Watches given absolutely free; to each of the first 1200 persons who will read this advertisement and send us the correct answer to this rebus. The publishers of American House and Home make this magnificent & princely offer to advertise & introduce their mammoth illustrated News & Story paper into new homes at once. It is beautifully and profusely illustrated, (established 1880), 8 pages, same size Harper's and Leslie's Illustrated Weeklies, and for years has been a conspicuous Metropolitan Journal. We have paid out over \$100,000 for prizes and premiums, and by our liberality secured 500,000 readers. Experience has taught us to give costly and valuable premiums. We guarantee satisfaction, and fulfillment of every promise we make promptly. The rebus is composed of four words. Those sending correct answers we publish weekly. With your answer send 10 cents in silver, or 15 cents in stamps for a three months' trial subscription to above described paper, and to help pay packing, postage, etc., and it will be sent by return mail. If you want watch by registered mail send 10 cents extra for 6 months subscription. Address American House and Home, New York City, P. O. Box 2252, N. Y. Remember we are the first and only firm ever to give a genuine Watch absolutely and unconditionally Free, and that according to above conditions, every one gets a watch by sending at once.

\$1,500.00 in Prizes
To Those Who Read This Rebus.

What Common Wild Flower does this fellow represent? To the first person who can tell us before Tuesday, May 31st, 1892, what common wild flower is represented by the picture in this advertisement, we will give

\$300 CASH

To the second \$100 in cash. To the third \$50 in cash. To each of the next ten A Solid Gold Watch (not plated but Solid Gold) with genuine American movement. To each of the next five A \$50 Singer Improved High Arm Sewing Machine. To each of the next five A Handsome Silk Dress Pattern of 14 to 16 Yards. You can choose between black, gray, blue, green, brown or wine color, and we will send the color of your choice. To the next twenty we will give to each one a handsome Genuine Solid Nickel Silver Cased Watch, with genuine American movement, stem-wind and set. To the last person sending a correct answer we will give a Handsome 7 Octave Upright Piano. To each of the next five A Solid Gold Watch. To each of the next five A Silk Dress Pattern. With your answer to the rebus we require you to send Thirty Cents for a trial subscription to our 16-page 64 column paper, American Household Guest, worth a dollar a year. The June issues of all our publications will announce the result of this offer, and the name and full address of every prize winner will be printed. This offer is made solely to advertise our publications and introduce them into new homes. This is a B.A.N.D.Y. opportunity to earn a very valuable prize whether your answer is one of the first or one of the last, but you get the LION share by being the first. Give your full name and P. O. address. Our address is: AMERICAN HOUSEHOLD GUEST, 215 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

"Why stand ye all the day idle?"

10 DOLLARS PER DAY
is not easily made in these times, but it can be made working for us in any locality. We have agents that have made more than \$25 per day, the whole secret is we have something that every housekeeper wants and will buy at sight without any urging. If agents prefer we will pay a straight salary of \$75 per month and expenses. Full particulars sent free to all points where we have not already secured an agent. Exclusive territory given. Can refer to any express company in Boston as to our integrity. Address, (in full),

STANDARD SILVERWARE CO.,
Order Dept. 140, Boston, Mass.

IMPORTED CONCERT FLUTE.
A beautiful, rich toned instrument, producing soft, delightful music. You can learn to play at once, even though entirely ignorant of music. The notes are marked and the fingering is so simple that it is numbered in like manner, instead of being printed in notes. You can learn one of the easy pieces in a few minutes.

A strong, durable instrument; will last a lifetime. Elegantly finished. Cannot get out of order. We send with it a lot of music numbered as explained above. Perfect satisfaction guaranteed. Send a note, and in the Concert Flute you will have "A thing of beauty and a joy forever." Postpaid \$25 cents. Address, BATES & CO., 74 Pearl St., BOSTON, MASS.

RIPANS TABULES regulate the stomach, liver and bowels, purify the blood, are safe and effectual; the best general family medicine known for biliousness, constipation, dyspepsia, foul breath, headache, heartburn, loss of appetite, mental depression, pain, full digestion, pimples, sallow complexion, tired feeling, and every symptom or disease resulting from impure blood, or a failure by the stomach, liver or intestines to perform their proper functions. Persons given to over-eating are benefited by taking one after each meal. Price by mail, 1 gross, \$1.00; 12 bottles 15c. Address: **RIPANS CHEMICAL CO., 10 Spruce St., New York.** Agents Wanted; EIGHTY per cent profit.

A TUB OF SILVER
CAN BE MADE IN THREE MONTHS

by any person who will send us their address AT ONCE. We do not wish responses from the rich, for this is a boon for the poor or middling class, that need a few thousand dollars to put them on their feet. Such an opportunity never crossed your path before. A case of goods will be sent you by mail, if you send 10 cts. for package and postage that will open your way to fortune. Address, H. A. KILS & CO., 161 LaSalle St., Chicago, Ill.

DRUNKENNESS LIQUOR HABIT.
IN ALL THE WORLD THERE IS BUT ONE CURE DR. HAINES' GOLDEN SPECIFIC.

It can be given in a cup of coffee or tea, or in articles of food, without the knowledge of the patient, if necessary. IT NEVER FAILS. 48 page book of particulars free. Address **GOLDEN SPECIFIC CO., 185 Race St., Cincinnati, O.**

\$15.00 Buys a Gent's Gold-Filled (STEEL WIND) WATCH (DUST PROOF) (OPEN FACE) (COMPLETE) with Elgin or Waltham Movement. Guaranteed to wear 15 years. Sent C. O. D., with privilege of examination before paying for same. Address **C. R. BLAKELY, Bradford, McKean Co., Pa.** Please mention COMFORT when you write.

A STITCH IN TIME



If you want to be sure and get into a ten thousand dollar a year business where dollars roll right into your pockets without hardly any effort on your part, don't delay a minute, but write to Giant Oxie Co., Augusta, Maine for particulars and free samples to start you in an honorable Summer, Fall and Winter business. Remember "Time and Tide wait for no man," and a postal in time saves you much disappointment, so don't allow anyone to get in ahead of you. Write today.

A BIG OFFER

50c. MADE IN A MINUTE! If you advance with samples and bills. This will trouble your time one minute, and then if you want to work on salary at \$25 or \$100 per month, let us know. We pay in advance, **GIANT OXIE CO. 123 Willow St., Augusta, Me.**

\$1,200 REWARD.



To the first person who sends the correct answer to this four word rebus before Saturday, May 25th, 1892, we will give \$200.00 in gold. To the second, \$100.00; to the third, \$50.00; to the next five, A HANDSOME SILK DRESS PATTERN of 16 yards in Black, Blue, Green, Brown or Gray. To the next 10 a Solid Gold Genuine Diamond Ring, and to the next 10 sending in the correct answer, \$50 each. To the person from whom we receive the most correct answer, by mail, we will give \$100; to the next to the last \$50, to the next \$25, the next 5, A Handsome Silk Dress Pattern of 16 yards in one of above colors. To the next 10 a Solid Gold Genuine Diamond Ring, and to the next 10 (should there be so many sending in correct answers) \$50 to each. With your answer send 25c. postage note or 30c. in stamps for a subscription to our Illustrated 16 Page Paper worth a dollar a year. Our June issue will announce the result of the contest, with names and addresses of the winners. We make money by doing just as we agree by our subscribers. We pay every prize offered and pay honestly. Give your name and post-office address in your letter. Our address is: The American Fireside, Washington & Sussex St., Jersey City, N. J.

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What will save my wayward boy from Drink?

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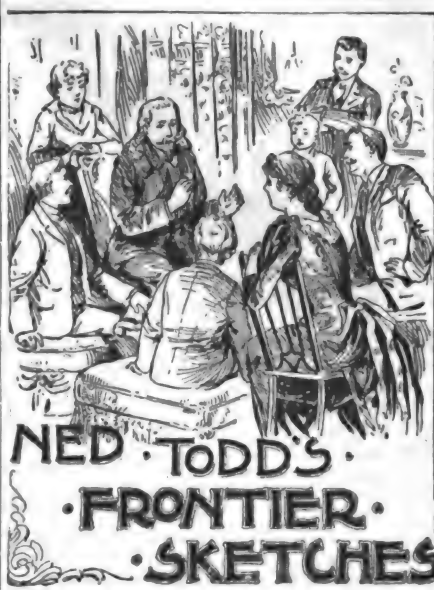
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NED TODD'S FRONTIER SKETCHES.

No jollier place could be found in Oklahoma City than the cozy sitting-room of the Sturgeon House during Ned Todd's stay in that city during this past winter, and I am sure no better story teller lives than Ned, who never has any trouble to surround himself with a party of listeners, each one eager to drink in all he has to say. And on this evening we find Jack Royal and Winnie Dawson side by side as usual, and there is Tom Morgan on the sofa half inclined to try to share the honors with Ned when Winnie quiets him very quickly by saying:

"Wait Mr. Morgan until Mr. Todd tells us about the Benders."

"Yes, yes the Benders, the Benders," put in everybody. "Let us hear of them."

"Well, they were such a terrible gang that I doubt if Miss Winnie Dawson would care to hear of them," put in Ned Todd.

"Oh, yes, I like the terrible," said Winnie.

"How many were there of them in family?" Jack Royal asked.

"Well, there were four and a precious family they were indeed," said Ned Todd, who was filling his pipe once more. "I sometimes don't know which member of that family was worst, the old man John, Kate or her mother. I can't recount all their many adventures, so you will have to be content with but one or two. Let me see. Well, Dick Rhodes had an adventure which is about as good as any and I will tell that to you. You see Rhodes was a dashing cowboy and a pretty good looking fellow. He was daring as a lion, and being a very economical fellow had saved considerable money. He was going across the State of Kansas once and being belated came upon a large stone house which stood alone on the prairie. There was no other house within thirty miles and this house was the home of the Benders. It had been built by them for the purpose of making it a murderers den.

"A storm was coming on. Dense clouds overcast the skies and the winds rose and thunder rolled along the horizon. The house afforded the only shelter and Dick rode up to it and asked to be accommodated for the night. An old man came out and called to a young man, a low framed fellow, dark skinned and terrible as his father. On entering Dick saw a tall, dark skinned girl about twenty years old. She gazed at him somewhat strangely and after a few moments left the room.

"These people seemed very grim and no one talked save the old man and he merely answered questions, sitting for most of the time in a corner smoking his pipe with his eyes on the door. Once Dick saw the sharp face of the girl peeping at him from behind a curtain which partitioned off the front room from the kitchen.

"At last supper was announced and he went into it, passing through the curtain. An axe sitting in the kitchen leaning against the wall for some reason unknown to Dick attracted his attention. He could not but shudder at sight of that terrible axe which was of enormous size.

"The girl who was called Kate waited on him, and while the old folks were in the front room and her brother who was called John was out of the house she said in a whisper:

"Don't stay here."

"Why?"

"This is the Benders' house."

"Who are you?"

"Kate Bender."

"Then she pointed to the curtain and to the axe and whispered:

"When you go to the other room you'll be asked to sit down, your back to the curtain. John will be on this side with the axe and he will see you through it. He will strike you on the head, you'll be robbed and put into the grave in the garden."

"Well, Dick Rhodes was not a coward, but he says he felt his blood run cold. He finished his supper though and went into the other room.

"As Kate had predicted a chair against the curtain was ready for him and the old man asked him to sit down. But Dick didn't do it. He had his revolver at his belt, and was strongly tempted two or three times to pull one and kill the old man.

"Take this chair," said old Bender.

"Do sit down there yourself, I would rather stand."

"A candle was burning in the front part of the curtain and all was dark behind. While Dick was still undecided what to do and actually trembling in his boots, he heard a shriek from behind the curtain.

"Tearing it away he saw John Bender choking his sister Kate. The axe lay at his feet.

"Wot yer doin' that for, John?" cried the old man.

"She told 'im, she told 'im," John cried. "I see her tell 'im."

The old man ran to get his gun and finish the stranger, but Dick Rhodes covered him with his revolver and made him lay it down.

"Although it was raining as hard as it could pour he went and saddled his horse and rode away across the prairie, preferring a storm on the plains to such shelter. Three weeks after this the Bender gang was broken up. John and his father were lynched, the old woman and Kate escaped. In the garden were found thirteen graves of victims had slain. Why Kate Bender spared Dick Rhodes is a mystery to everyone. She was never known to spare anyone else.

"But young folks it's getting late. No more stories to-night," said Ned Todd.

"Won't you continue them to-morrow night?" asked Winnie.

"For you I will, Miss Winnie. I don't see how one can deny you anything. Why, if I wasn't so old I would give Jack Royal there some trouble."

Winnie blushed and Jack looked sheepish. Ned Todd said:

"Good-night!" and retired.

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An old physician, retired from practice, had placed in his hands by an East India missionary the formula of a simple vegetable remedy for the speedy and permanent cure of Consumption, Bronchitis, Catarrh, Asthma and all Throat and Lung Affections, also a positive and radical cure for Nervous Debility and all Nervous Complaints. Having tested its wonderful curative powers in thousands of cases, and desiring to relieve human suffering, I will send free of charge to all who wish it, this recipe in German, French or English, with full directions for preparing and using. Sent by mail, by addressing, with stamp, naming this paper, W. A. NOYES, 820 Powers' Block, Rochester, N. Y.

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CHICAGO THE CITY OF THE WORLD'S FAIR

THE SUCCESS of the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago is assured—there need be, there can be, no question of that. The measures taken by the National Commission and by the Local Directory have been so complete and so elaborate that any one who has had a fear that the affair might be a failure may dismiss that fear at once as unreasonable and groundless. But Chicago itself, and by Chicago, I mean its citizens have never had any doubt or fear. It is not like the citizen of Chicago to have any doubt or fear of the result of any enterprise in which their city is interested.

They did not fail to appreciate then the importance and probable value of the occasion given them; and they prepared for the fair, having secured it from Congress and the National Government, with enthusiasm and skill. Above all they prepared for a big thing. Chicago is a big city and they do things there in a big way.

The Paris Exposition of a few years ago was the largest exhibition ever held until now and the most complete exposition of the progress of the world. But whereas in Paris the Exposition covered a total space of one hundred and seventy-three acres the Columbian Exposition will cover four times as much. There will be no lack of room for the machinery, the beautiful or useful specimens of manufactured goods, the food products, the live stock, the minerals, the paintings or statuary, or whatever may be sent, under the rules, by native or foreign exhibitors. All has been planned or arranged for on a large scale. Altogether there will be twelve large buildings designed by the leading architects of the country in which will be most of the exhibits duly classified and arranged. Besides these there will be innumerable other buildings specially erected by the National Government, the various States and by foreign nations. It is promised that Mexico will erect a reproduction of an Aztec palace; Guatemala will show a model of an ancient palace, and Ecuador will erect as she did in Paris a copy of her famous Temple of the Sun. Europe will do as well, while England is likely to have as its main building a reproduction of one of its famous palaces or houses, designed to illustrate typical English architecture. It may be that this will be a fac-simile of Sandringham, one of the seats of the Prince of Wales.

The main building of the Exposition will be an enormous structure. It will be 1688 by 788 feet. A walk around it will be a mile long. Its arched roof will be three-fourths as high as the dome of the National Capitol at Washington, while, exclusive of the dome, two such buildings as the Capitol could be placed within it. Bigness is characteristic of Chicago enterprises, and bigness will be the leading characteristic of the fair. The very earnestness, not to say bitterness, with which the contest for the possession of the exhibition was conducted among the rival American cities no doubt helped to the success of the affair. The citizens of Chicago became determined to show that they did not deserve the slurs cast upon them; they were and are determined to prove that they can do some things as well if not better than some others.

But great as will be the Exhibition itself the many visitors to Chicago next year will find the Exhibition located in a wonderful city. Its size and importance, its wealth and its vast business interests will show the slower-going people of the old world what can be accomplished in America in a few years. Think of it! Where now there is a city of a million and a quarter about of inhabitants there were only a little more than fifty years ago a fort at the mouth of the Chicago River and a port for trading with the Indians! Where now there is a city teeming with active, busy, pushing people, where there are beautiful homes and office buildings whose lofty towers almost pierce the clouds there was then an unbroken prairie.

CHICAGO IN ITS EARLY DAYS.

The city is second only to New York in the United States in size and commercial importance—by size I mean in population for it covers more ground than all Manhattan Island. It is situated on the west side but down near the southern end of Lake Michigan, one of the great inland seas of America. When the city was originally settled although it was six hundred feet above the level of the sea it was only seven feet higher than the surface of the lake, but as long ago as 1855 it was raised seven feet

more or to fourteen feet above the lake. The streets were filled in and the houses were raised by means of jack-screws. The buildings were raised without interfering with their uses either for living or business. That is a way they have in Chicago. While our illustrations on this page, outside of a few sketches, show more The Chicago of to-day, we have collected a group of photographic sketches [see page 14] of this great city in 1856, when the whole surface was being raised seven or eight feet, the streets being so muddy (where are now located the finest buildings) that planks were laid across to keep horses from going entirely out of sight. Although pedestrians were bespattered with mire when in the vicinity of passing drays. As soon as one building was raised the sidewalk had to be built up to a corresponding height, which left that in front of the adjoining one much below it, so it was a hard road to travel in those days to get along the streets of Chicago. The great crowds that had to single file up to the post-office on the narrow plank at an upgrade would certainly appreciate the

twenty millions of dollars have been planned.

In 1837 when was taken the first census of the city, the city had a population of only 4,170. It grew with wonderful rapidity even from the beginning, and in 1865 after the war it had a population of 178,492, and in 1871 the year of the fire, over 300,000. It was only after the war that Chicago become important in business and as a centre of great commercial enterprises. Then came the great fire.

THE GREAT FIRE.

It was like Chicago, which as I have said does all things in a big way, to have the largest and most destructive fire of modern times. The fire was commenced by the overturning of a lamp in a district where the buildings were almost all of wood. It has never been proven that the fire was due to the misbehavior of a refractory cow in a stable; but that is the story which has been told and retold again. At all events, the fire began about nine o'clock in the evening of Sunday, October 8, 1871. It burned all through that night and the greater part of the next day, destroying great blocks of houses.

last under the careful and honest administration of a society of citizens until 1876. Temporary homes were provided for nearly 40,000 people; barracks and shelter houses were erected, workmen were supplied with tools and women with sewing machines. The season that year in Chicago had been very dry, and there was a strong southwest wind during the fire. The fire department although large and efficient was unable to stop the progress of the flames, and finally they were checked by blowing up whole rows of buildings in the line of the flames.

The work of rebuilding the city was begun before the cinders were cold. The most sanguine predicted that it would take at least ten years to restore the buildings that were destroyed; but within three years the city had buildings equal in capacity and twice as valuable.

The fire, indeed, seemed to be a blessing to the city at large. The population gained stronger ambition and greater energy. The citizens would not be beaten. They learned the old truth that energy is more useful, more profitable than wealth. Regulations were adopted forbidding the erection of buildings other than those of stone, or brick or iron. The consequence of the fire, of the necessary rebuilding and of the restrictions has been to make Chicago now the most beautiful of modern cities in its business district.

Within the first year after the fire new buildings were erected or started costing when finished over \$40,000,000. And the work of building has gone on ever since. And such buildings as they erect!

SOME GREAT BUILDINGS AND BOULEVARDS.

There is the custom-house and postoffice mammoth buildings of granite; the Board of

Trade building also of granite, with tall pillars supporting a carved cornice. Down by the river is the great brown-stone building of Marshall Field & Co. covering a whole block, and looking like a fortress well fitted to resist the attack of the elements or of any mob. There is the Tacoma office-building a tall graceful structure, the Rookery—queer name that!—to mention only two of perhaps two dozen of the enormous office buildings in the centre of the business district. And these office-buildings although so enormous are beautiful and well planned. They have elevators which raise one with almost express speed to their highest floors, or drop him safely to the lowest. They contain all the improvements for the comfort or convenience of their tenants which the ingenuity of man has been able to devise. So various are the occupations of their tenants that one choosing to have a bed in his office, need never leave the walls of the building—what with their barber tenants, their tailors and shoemakers and restaurants. One of these great buildings has a daily population of 40,000 and on one day, by actual count, its elevators were used by 20,000 people. These buildings are all tall, some of them having from sixteen to twenty stories, while the new Masonic building, just completed, has twenty-one.

There are other buildings, too, of which Chicago may be proud and will interest its visitors. There are great hotels and fine theatres and churches. The Auditorium is a great structure of granite with heavy walls occupying half a block, and, on one side, facing Lake Michigan. It contains a hotel, a theatre and a vast audience hall—a hall well adapted for the holding of great political conventions. It has a tower, too, from which one can look down upon the city or far out over the green waters of the lake. And this Auditorium is a monument to the love and admiration of the citizens of Chicago for their city, of their faith in it and of their public spirit. The city needed such a building, especially the large assembly room, and they raised the money and built it with but little reason to hope that they would receive any adequate return upon their money for many years to come.

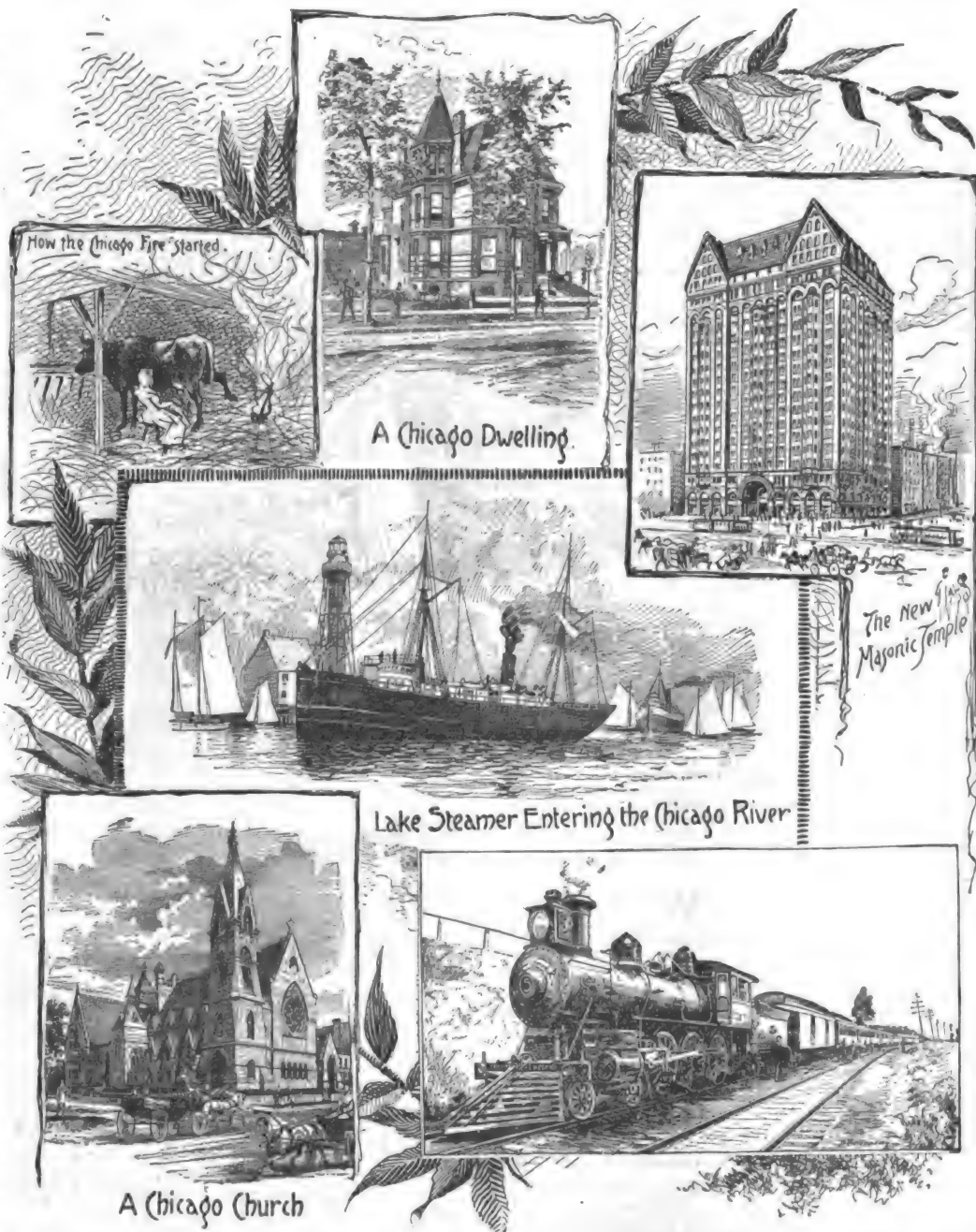
Then along the sides of the wide handsome boulevards which run from the center of the city out, south and north to its extremities, are handsome substantial stone villas each with a more or less large plot of ground about it, the tasteful homes of the wealthy. Smaller homes there are in plenty. One sees few apartment houses for Chicago covers so much ground, that it has not been found necessary to crowd many families under one roof as must be done in New York where growth is restricted by the natural boundaries of the surrounding rivers.

There are thirty-five lines of railway entering Chicago, eighteen of them trunk lines. There are miles and miles of cable street railways. On these there is an average rate of speed of nine miles an hour. The ordinary speed of horse car lines is only six miles an hour. An elevated railroad is in process of construction which will make all the outlying regions more easily accessible.

There are many beautiful parks in the city. On the south side are Washington Park and Jackson Park where the great exhibition is to be held. On the north side is Lincoln Park, containing 230 acres with a lake shore drive many miles in length. And there are others so that there are 1,856 acres set aside by Chicago for public grounds.

The public officials have appropriated three and a half million dollars for beautifying and improving the city and to put it into readiness for the Exhibition.

It is a young and busy city; its people are hustling; but it is a great and beautiful city. It has splendid public schools, libraries, hospitals, storehouses, galleries and theatres. The millions who will be drawn thither by the fair will find the city itself a valuable and an impressive exhibit. It is worth examination and study for its own sake, and if those who see what it is will but remember how young it is, and that its oldest inhabitants have scarcely had time to grow old, they will find it a most wonderful example of American energy, of American taste and of American enterprise.



marked improvements that have taken place the last thirty years. Although the cows that grazed in front of the city reservoir on Adams St. might not thank the men who have forwarded the modern march of improvements, but whatever happens business goes on and the people forward their interests with resistless energy. The streets are broad and straight and intersect each other at right angles. The Chicago River, an inlet of the lake, cuts the city in three parts. This river has always been a difficult problem. Into it the city sewerage empties. Originally it emptied into the lake; but a remarkable piece of engineering changed its course. A canal was deepened so as to draw its water into the Illinois River, thence to run into the mighty Mississippi—at least this was the design; but the work was not altogether successful for now with the wind in certain quarters it still flows into the lake. As the drinking water of the city is drawn from the lake, being pumped from stations about two miles out, care must be taken that the water be not contaminated. No harm from that source has yet been caused; and important improvements, to cost about

The total area burned was 2,124 acres or nearly 31-3 square miles—a district about four miles long and from one to one and a half miles wide. Wooden buildings were scattered throughout the entire city and these aided in spreading the conflagration. The total number of buildings burned was 1,745 and 98,860 people lost their homes while two hundred and fifty died in the flames or from exposure. Thousands sought safety in the lake and stood there for hours so escaping from the intense heat and the shower of sparks and cinders. Among the buildings destroyed were the custom-house, post-office, court-house, chamber of commerce, and nearly all the churches, railway depots, hotels, banks, theatres and newspaper offices. It was estimated that seventy-three miles frontage of streets was burned over, and that the total loss was \$196,000,000. A system of relief was at once organized and the money contributions from the various States and from abroad were nearly five millions of dollars. On the losses there was an insurance of over \$88,000,000; but only about half of this was recovered. The relief funds which were over and above contributions of food, clothing and supplies were made to



Mary J. Ross Quebec



Harry B. Webb N.Y.



Carey W. Smith S. Dak.



Fannie A. Goodenow Mich.



Katie L. Sinclair Maine



G.G. Bells Ore.



Fannie Pittsburgh Pa.



Mrs. Delaney Minn.



Lida M. Palmer Neb.



W.B. Harris



Maud L. Clark Mich.



Elspy M. Ross Quebec



Mrs. A. Maynard Pa.



John A. Zapp Md.



C.F. Flad Iowa



Herbert Tilney Kan.



Clizzie Eckert Minn.



Cora Rundle Iowa



Ross G. Turner Ohio.



C.R. Morrison Illinois.



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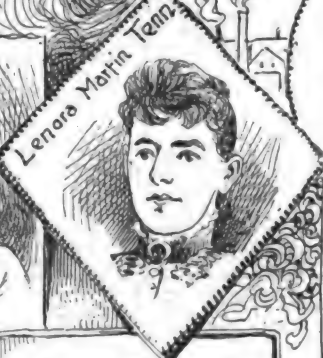
Kittie Amfield Ills.



Daniel B. Osborn Mo.



Pearl Webb Miss.



Lenora Maria Tenn.



Susie Marx Tenn.



Frank M. Deverly Va.



W.B. Rosson Va.



Mrs. J. Kelker Colo.



Otto H. Fisher Tex.



David F. Moore Fla.



Minnie Baugh Ga.



Jennie Cowan S.C.



Payne Findley Tex.



Mary Nicholson Colorado.



Master C.B. Phelps and Playmates Fla.



Suanho Lee Porter Fla.



V.D.H. Va.



MY DEAR NIECES AND NEPHEWS:

It gives me such pleasure to look upon so many bright faces that belong to my great family, that I am content to be placed over in this out of the way corner in order that you may all catch a glimpse of each other the first thing as you unfold your COMFORTS this month, and thus be at home with each other. The Editor says it required a large amount of work to reduce and redraw all the pictures from the photos sent in, and of course as it is only a part could be found place for on one page, and the balance will have to follow at a later date. To say that I am a proud Auntie would hardly express my pleasure this month, and only hope we may all have the privilege of meeting the originals at the World's Fair Reunion. One thing I am very sorry about, however, and that is that the many excellent letters that came with the photographs have had to be condensed so much, they all contained beautiful thoughts and expressions which had to be clipped out for want of space. And now let us hear briefly from each one, have arranged them to come in rotation, Miss Rose being the first picture top of left hand column of pictorial page the other pictures following across the page to the right each time as the letters follow each other down this column.

Our number, name and *nom de plumes*, and nameless other graces, In COMFORT's columns have appeared. This month we show our faces. Aurora dear, fair Bessie Stark, Join with us in this hour, Come hither now and launch your barque, Also our Kansas Flower. This is a page quite free to all In this broad land of ours, Here we all meet in "cousins hall" And chat away the hours. From flower lands to frosty clime Our mutual love is blended, And here we spend such pleasant times We're sorry when it's ended. From East and West we gather here From o'er all this happy land, With Aunt Minerva in the chair And the Owls complete the band. We talk of temperance, home and grace, Our History Club we mention, We stare Wild Billy in the face, He takes so much attention. Kind words and letters, essays, too, We find on every hand. Small gifts, cheering words, and friendship true Encircle our "Shut In" band. We wish Godspeed to all good things, To every thought and deed, And wish that COMFORT bring To every one in need. COUSIN BUSH.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I enjoy your paper very much as well as the letters I receive from the cousins. I live in the country but it is very beautiful here, being surrounded by mountains and watered by a silvery stream called Silver Creek. We have many summer visitors in this natural park. Wishing you success for the coming year, I remain a friend of COMFORT. MARY J. ROSS, Silver Creek, Ottawa Co., Province Quebec, Can.

Dear Aunt:—I send my picture for the pictorial page. I am a crank, so mama tells me, on the subject of music, but I am so fond of music in any form. I play several different instruments among them the cornet. I would like to ask how many of the girl cousins play the latter. I like it the best of any instrument. FANNIE A. GOODNOW, White Pigeon, Mich.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I have long been a silent admirer and reader of the cousins' chats and I will now come to I may get acquainted. Pedagogue, I wish to shake hands with you. I think you deserve a medal. Sadie dear, I want to send you just the least little mite for the way you rated Wild Bill. Should be pleased to hear from any of the cousins. KATHIE SINOLAR, Columbia Falls, Maine.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Will you accept another nephew from New York State. I live in Auburn, a city of 25,000 inhabitants. It contains the State Prison and the State Asylum. The prison has over 300 convicts. The first time I ever saw COMFORT I was so taken with it that I never got over it. Wishing all a pleasant winter, I remain, HARRY B. WEBB, 134 So. Division St.

Dear Aunt Minerva and Cousins:—I have for several years read this department with interest and have many times wished to join your happy band. I live in Madison Co. near Lake Madison which has been designated as a place for holding the Chautauquan Assembly and Summer School. The scenery about the lake is especially fine and I hope to meet many of the cousins there next summer, and many more with Aunt Minerva at the World's Fair. CARRY W. SMITH, Madison, South Dakota.

"I subscribed for COMFORT Because I thought it bright, To read the cousins' letters Has been my great delight. Enclosed within this letter I will my photo send, But you may keep it, Auntie, For I have one to lend. And now I'll say adieu Until some later day, But pray do not forget Your cousin LIDA MAY, Beatrice, Gage Co., Neb."

"I must say if we follow the advice in the letters we will never regret it in after years. At some future time I will give you a sketch of the great North West. G. G. BELLS, Harrisburgh, Oregon."

Dear Aunt Minerva:—COMFORT comes to me a most welcome visitor every month. I take a few refined papers to cheer my lonely life, but none are so dear to me as COMFORT. Please ask the Editor to let us have a household page. I have been a cripple ever since I was a year and a half old caused by scarlet fever, and have never walked without crutches since. Will some one please send me the rules and regulations of the King's Daughters? Mrs. A. MAYNARD, 425 Bald Eagle St., Lock Haven, Pa.

"We not only take COMFORT but have a comfort of my own as you will see by my photo. I think the column is very entertaining and instructive. Mrs. DELANEY, Dundas, Minn."

Dear Aunt Minerva and COMFORT Friends:—I have been reading COMFORT for two years and think a single copy worth a year's subscription price. I live in Kentucky and my father is a farmer and I like farming very much. I like to correspond with the COMFORT cousins and think that there can be no harm in it even if they are unknown to me. W. B. HARRIS, Morrill, Ky.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I read the cousins' letters in COMFORT every month and find them very interesting as well as instructive. I was born in Norwich, England, 150 miles northeast of London. In 1876 left Victoria Dock London for America and had a very rough passage, taking 17 days. We went to Philadelphia and visited the Centennial Exhibition then in progress, where I saw much to interest me. After

going to Crawfordsville, Ind., and Hastings, Neb., we moved to this place where we have lived ever since. Hoping the sick cousins are all improving, I remain respectfully, HERBERT TILNEY, Marysville, Kans.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I have been away from home since last October on account of my health, but I am now partly able to resume my neglected studies. Cousins! let us remember Judge not lest ye be judged"—learn to be charitable. If we can see no way of giving a helping hand let us not aid in putting down a fellow mortal. Oh! to know the worth of living, To be earnest in the strife, Living grandly, nobly, truly, Making sweeter, better life. Sincerely, MAUD L. CLARK, Galesburgh, Mich.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Although it is a whole year since I wrote you I have never forgotten you and am always interested in the cousins' letters in COMFORT each month. My father is the postmaster here and I am the assistant. We live about 30 miles from the city of Ottawa, in the land of ice and snow and have grand times skating, sliding and tobogganing. Would like to hear from all the cousins. ELSIE M. ROSS, Silver Creek, Quebec.

Aunt Minerva:—I have been a reader of COMFORT for the past two years and cannot but say that it has been a very beneficial paper to me. So please consider me a nephew. I think the corresponding department a grand thing indeed. Long may a paper prosper that has such able workers. With best wishes to my cousins, I remain, F. W. HALL, Box 45, Cordelia, Pa.

Dear Auntie:—Your corner looks so inviting and the cousins' letters are so inviting that I want you to claim me as one of your nephews. I have been a reader of COMFORT for over a year and can hardly wait until it comes each month. Here is my photograph. JOHN A. ZEPF, Melrose, Carroll Co., Md.

Dear Aunt and COMFORT Cousins:—We are but travellers over the old yet ever new road of life and the journey is what we make it. So then let us strive to brighten with the glorious sunshine of happiness, not only our own paths but the paths of those who are near and dear to us. C. LIZZIE ECKERT, Box 828, Hastings, Minn.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I am knocking for admittance. I think COMFORT an exceedingly nice paper and it is a comfort to me to read in it the chats of the many cousins. I have been a subscriber a year and I assure you I have derived more than 25 cents' worth of benefit from it. CORA RUNDLE, Montezuma, Iowa.

Dear Aunt:—I send you my photo as you requested. I enjoy COMFORT and the chats with the nieces and nephews. ROSS G. TURNER, Fountain Park, Ohio.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I think the Editor is so kind to allow us to come together with the cousins through the medium of Aunt Minerva and the Owls, but as we are to have so grand a coming together of faces space will be above par. Godspeed to COMFORT and all the cousins. J. C. HIRSTAN, Pleasantville, Ohio.

Mrs. Chas. S. Hubbard, Ottawa, Ill., writes that she is Secretary of the local W. C. T. U. and an active worker in the Epworth League. She was awarded one of the prizes in the Essay Club. Mr. and Mrs. H. both say they enjoy COMFORT very much and this department in particular.

Dear Aunt and Cousins:—I enjoy every part of COMFORT, but this department especially. I am glad to come into this cozy corner and greet you. I like the idea of a pictorial page and send my photo. My home is situated near the city of Bloomington, which contains about 30,000 inhabitants. May good luck attend you. KIRKIE ARNFIELD, Bloomington, Ill.

"I send you my photo to be used in the group of cousins and would give the price of a year's subscription for the illustrated issue. Give my sympathy to the afflicted and 'Shut Ins.' I would say to them to bear their burdens bravely remembering that who said, 'Come unto me all ye who are weak and heavy laden and I will give you rest.' What a glorious assurance from Him who is able to fulfill all promises. My love to Aunt and all the cousins. DANIEL B. OSBORNE, Coaleda, Missouri.

Dear Aunt:—I want to join the band of loving cousins. I am 10 years old and go to school. I read COMFORT every night to mama and she explains what I cannot understand and tells me "where there is a will there's a way." With love to all and a bushel and a peck and a hug on the neck for Auntie, I will close. FRANK WEBB, Louisville, Miss.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I have been a COMFORT subscriber for two years and have often wanted to join the cousins. When I found out I was soon to see their faces I could wait no longer. I am a milliner and support myself and think it very nice to be independent. LENOA MERRY, 209 Broad St., Nashville, Tenn.

Dear Aunt and Cousins:—I have been taking COMFORT since Feb. 1890 and I feel that I could not do without it, for if I should quit taking COMFORT I should lose much comfort. I am an ex-pedagogue and now do considerable work in the County Clerk's office, and am also a reporter for one of our city dailies. FRANK M. BEVERLY, Clintwood, Va.

Dear Aunt:—We all enjoy COMFORT very much and its improvement in the past two years has pleased us. Each month we watch eagerly for its coming that we may read the new social and novel features with which it is filled, and which make it the best and most attractive paper in the U. S. I am a farmer's boy but have been visiting in the city of Waco and will return there in a few days to attend a business college. I play on four different musical instruments and wish I could entertain you all. OTTO H. FISHER, Giddings, Lee Co., Texas.

Dear Aunt:—I am a bachelor and a Florida Cracker of the pure type. Girls don't want me. I live in a large orange grove near numerous lakes whose clear waters are filled with fine fish and large alligators. If you have ever seen an orange grove in blossom you will agree that nothing can equal its beauty. FLORIDA CRACKER, Umatilla, Fla.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I have never read a letter from this section and I am coming to shake hands with the cousins (provided). I would like to shake hands with Nellie and I think Pedagogue voices my sentiments. I would like very much to help Mrs. James but her address was not given with the letter. If you will tell me what it is I will send her what she needs. I. H. N. With love to all I bid you adieu. MINNIE BAUGH, Maysville, Ga.

Dear Aunt Minerva and Cousins:—I have been an ardent reader of COMFORT for a long time and now I must express my feelings. What a comfort it is to have so many dear cousins and such a noble, kind and generous Aunt to meet us with anxious greeting and smile of welcome. I take a great many papers but think COMFORT best of all, and a comfort it proves to be when I read and re-read its precious contents and think how many hearts in all parts of the world are cheered by its numerous interesting topics. None are forsaken but all are cordially invited to take place in its columns. JENNIE COWAN, Wellington, Abbeville Co., S. C.

Dear Aunt:—This section of the Lone Star State has a fine climate. We enjoy the sea breezes in summer and in winter hunt the game which abounds. I am a 16 year old nephew studying Pitman's system of phonography and enjoy it much. I am in favor of organizing a COMFORT Aid Society for our young folks. Would like to correspond with the cousins. PAYNE FINDLAY, Mineral City, Bee Co., Texas.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—Will you welcome a niece from Colorado who has been a silent admirer of COMFORT for some time. I take a number of papers but enjoy COMFORT more than all the rest. I am 19 years old and live on a ranch in the beautiful San Luis Valley, and enjoy very much the view of the snow covered mountains we can get from here. MARY B. NICHOLSON.

"I am a nephew. I am a constant reader of COMFORT. I am one of those Brawny Plated Farmers. I thank the Lord for giving me health all the days of my life. I am a member of the Baptist Church. I was brought up in the Sunday-school. I like to go to see the bright faces of the boys and girls. I like the boys (but). I could not begin to tell you how much. I love the dear sweet girls for I want my life to be pure like theirs. I think if I did not love them I should go wild and die in the woods."

Dear Aunt:—I reside with a widowed mother in a secluded home in the Sunny South, where Spring wears her mantle of glory and Autumn her robe of purple. COMFORT is my favorite paper and my books, birds and flowers are not only my associates but my friends, for in them I place implicit confidence. The wild birds I have tamed and made my pets, but I do not cage them and I wish the cousins could see them answer my call with their chorus of merry voices, and flock from their forest homes to eat the crumbs I throw to them. SUEANNE LEE PORTER, Seiman, Fla.

Dear Auntie:—I send you my picture which papa had taken one day when I was out playing with my dusky companions down here in Florida. I like living here very much and take comfort among the flowers and oranges. MASTER PHELPS.

Now with best wishes and many thanks to you all for the pleasure of a look at your faces we will close the column and think of some new feature to keep this department ever fresh and interesting for us all but would remind each and every one that now would be a good time to send the publishers a renewal of your subscription, do not send money to me as that department is entirely separate from mine and would occasion you great delay. With kind regards, AUNT MINERVA, (Care of COMFORT.)



GRANDMOTHER'S PLAN.

When Papa and Mama and dear Aunt Sue Have all read COMFORT through and through, Then Grandmother takes it; she waits till the last, Because, as she tells, she cannot read fast. And besides, she declares, it's a much better plan To make COMFORT last just as long as you can; So she reads a bit now and she reads a bit then, Sometimes to her grandchildren, Hetty and Ben, Who agree that the hour spent with COMFORT and her Is the happiest one in the whole twenty-four.

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ABSOLUTELY GIVEN AWAY IF YOU GUESS THIS REBUS.

TON

This rebus represents the chief product of Southern plantations. Some of it is in your clothes. What is it? To the first person sending us a correct answer on or before May 30th, 1892, we will give \$200 cash; to the next \$100; to the next \$50; and to the next ten persons, \$5 each. To the person from whom we receive the correct answer, we will give \$500; to the next to the last \$100; to the next \$50; and to the next ten persons, \$5 each. Besides these cash presents we will send free of charge to every person sending in a correct answer a package of Turkish Perfume, the most fragrant and lasting of Oriental productions. With your answer send a recent portrait of yourself, or a photograph, or a letter, or postage, and advertising expenses. We make unparalleled offer to introduce this celebrated perfume and to secure canvassers for it at every postoffice. You can make an average of \$5 to \$8 a day with it. If you conclude to take the agency, Address: TURKISH PERFUME CO., Cass St., Chicago, Ill.

\$1,000.00 IN GOLD

IF YOU GUESS THIS REBUS.

MER

This rebus represents the tool most used by carpenters. What is it? We will give to the first person sending us a correct answer on or before May 31st, 1892, \$1,000. To the one giving the next correct answer, \$100.00. To the third, \$50, and to the next ten persons, \$5 each. To the person whose answer is exactly in the middle between the first and last answer we will give \$50. To the person from whom we receive the last correct answer we will give \$200; to the next to last, \$100; to the next \$50; to the next 10 persons, \$5 each. With your answer you must send in 25 cents in silver or 50 cents in stamps for full package of Dr. Wilson's Vegetable Compound, which is the best vegetable remedy known for acting quickly, but gently on the liver, bowels and kidneys. This compound will drive away the most severe headache, dispel fevers and colds and relieve the worst cases of constipation. Being purely vegetable it cures every ailment of a bilious character and thus acts in harmony with nature. It will save hundreds of dollars in doctor's bills. REMEMBER, you pay nothing for these presents, as they are absolutely given away for the purpose of advertising Dr. Wilson's Celebrated Medicine. We guarantee satisfaction. Remedy sent to any address by mail. Agents wanted. Dr. Wilson's Compound Co., 234 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.



DEAR COUSINS:

Have you forgotten the rule of our department, which is to help one another? Among the new subscribers which *COMFORT* is gaining all the time, there must be many young housekeepers who are needing so much the help and advice of the older and more experienced ones; and will you not give it to them? Send not only recipes for cooking, but hints and suggestions about all kinds of housework; not something which you have read in a newspaper, and think that perhaps it might be good, but something which you have tried yourself, and found to be really useful and helpful. If we cannot make our column profitable and interesting, the Editor will certainly drop it; and then I am sure you would be sorry. Please remember about writing on one side of the paper only.

Now for the recipes.

Cousin Ceres:—May I come in just a moment with a few recipes and a request? First I will give a recipe for

MOUNTAIN CAKE.

2 cups sugar, 1 cup butter, 1 cup sweet milk, 6 eggs (beaten separately), 4 cups flour, 2 teaspoons baking powder, 1 teaspoon soda. Flavor to suit taste.

It is rather early for pickling receipts, but I would like for some of the cousins to try my recipe this summer for making

SWEET PICKLED PEACHES.

Select late peaches, peel them, or rub them with damp cloth; put a quart of vinegar in a kettle and add 2 pounds of sugar, an ounce each of cinnamon and mace, and 1-2 ounce of ginger and cloves. Let boil and drop in the peaches (5 pounds to the quart of vinegar). Let them scald, take up, put in a jar and pour the syrup, boiling hot, over them. Drain off, heat and pour over the peaches for 9 days.

Hoping that some of the cousins will give a recipe for Crab Apple Preserves, I will go.

M. L. M.

"I have tried so many nice recipes from your column, that I feel I ought to return the favor by sending a recipe that may help some one.

YEAST FOR BREAD.

4 common sized potatoes, cooked and mashed, 1 cup of sugar and 2 tablespoonfuls of salt, to 1-2 gallon of warm water. While you are cooking your potatoes, put 1 dry yeast cake in a little warm water to soak. Stir the whole well together and set in a warm place for 24 hours. After your yeast comes once, you need not add the yeast cake, the yeast will be good without, and if set in a cool place after it comes (which you can tell by little bubbles rising to the top very fast, making a hissing sound) will keep 2 or 3 weeks.

Will some cousin of *COMFORT* please send a recipe for making crackers such as you buy? It will be a great favor to me indeed.

ROSA NELL.

JELLY CAKE.

Sugar 1 cup, butter size of an egg, sour milk 2-3 cup, 2 eggs, flour 2 cups, soda 1-2 teaspoonful; bake.

FRUIT CAKE.

Sugar 1 cup, molasses 2-3 cup, 1-2 cup butter, 1 cup raisins, cloves, cinnamon and allspice 1 tablespoonful, coffee 2-3 cup, soda 1 teaspoonful; dissolve the soda in a little warm water; 8 eggs, beat the eggs light.

GRAHAM GEMS WITH SOUR MILK.

Graham flour 1 quart, 1 egg well beaten, butter 1 tablespoonful, melted, a little salt, dissolve the soda in a cup of sour milk and stir it with more sour milk, sufficient to make a stiff batter. The gem pans being warm, dip the batter in to half fill them.

MAGGIE E. NELSON, Triumph, Ills.

"Perhaps I should not occupy space when it could be used to better advantage, but nevertheless would like to step in a moment. Will give recipe for

EXCELLENT CAKE.

2 cups of sugar, 8 eggs beaten well, a little over 1-2 cup butter or lard, then add 1-2 cup sweet milk, (beat the lard to a cream.) Mix 2 heaping teaspoonfuls of good baking powder into 2-3 cups sifted flour. Vanilla flavoring. Bake in 8 layers.

MISS L. G. GRAMM.

A FEW HINTS.

Stale lard can be made sweet by bringing to a boil with slices of raw potatoes thrown in. Impurities will rise and can be skimmed off.

Oilcloths should never be washed in hot soap suds; they should first be washed with cold water, then rubbed dry with a cloth wet in milk.

Ink stains soaked in milk and wet with lemon juice may be removed.

Iron rust may be removed by mixing salt with lemon juice, or wetting salt with hot vitrol.

D. G. B., Warwick, Ala.

The ink stains must be placed in the hot sun after applying the lemon juice and salt.

Dear Cousin Ceres:—I will send you some tested recipes, which I hope will find a place in your column of our dear little *COMFORT*.

COTTAGE PUDDING.

Beat 1-2 a cup of sugar and 1-4 of a cup of butter well together, then add the yolks of 2 eggs well beaten, then a cup of milk, 2-1 cups of flour, with 2 tablespoonfuls of baking powder sifted in it, and lastly the whites of the eggs beaten stiff. Beat together thoroughly; bake in a moderate oven. Serve hot with sauce.

HASHED POTATO.

Cut some cold boiled potatoes into small dice, butter a shallow baking dish, put in the potatoes about 1-2 an inch deep, sprinkle with pepper, salt and bits of butter, pour enough milk to cover them all over and bake in a brisk oven till quite brown.

Have any of the cousins any good recipes for buckwheat cakes? that is, without yeast.

Your loving cousin, ANNA B.

COFFEE CAKE.

1 cup sugar, 1 cup butter, 1 egg and 1 cup molasses well mixed together; then add 1 cup strong cold coffee, 3 or 4 cups of flour. Some flour requires more moisture than others, so that the quantity may have to be varied to make batter of a proper consistency. If baking powder is used, 1 teaspoonful for each cup of flour, or if soda is preferred, 1 teaspoonful for the total amount of flour used; 1 cup raisins seeded and chopped, 1 cup currants washed and dried, 1 teaspoonful each of ground cloves, cinnamon and nutmeg; the

raisins and currants should be rolled in flour to keep them from settling to the bottom.

M. E. F.

Here are some good recipes from a Canadian cousin:

DOUGHNUTS.

2 eggs, 1 cup sugar, 1-2 cup butter, 1-2 cup milk, a little nutmeg, 1 teaspoon of soda and 2 of cream tartar, flour to make a good dough. Cut in patterns and fry.

GINGER SNAPS.

2 cups molasses, 1 cup sugar, 1 cup lard and butter, 1-2 tablespoons ginger, a little salt. Mix all these ingredients together, put over fire and let come to a boil. When cool, add 3-4 teaspoon soda, and flour to make a stiff dough. Knead, roll very thin.

CHOCOLATE CANDY.

1 cup grated chocolate, 1 cup milk, 1 cup molasses, butter size of an egg, 1 cup sugar. Boil 1 hour.

COCOANUT CAKE.

2 well-beaten eggs, 1 cup sugar, 1-2 cup milk, 2 tablespoons butter, 2 cups grated cocoanut, 1 teaspoon cream tartar, 1-2 teaspoon soda. Bake in jelly tins.

PLANTATION JOHNNY CAKE.

1 pint Indian meal, 1-2 cup sugar, 8 eggs, 1 tablespoon butter or lard, 3-4 teaspoon soda, 1 of cream tartar, and enough buttermilk or sweet milk to make a thick batter. Grease the pan well, pour the batter into it, and bake in a slow oven at least 5 hours.

POP OVERS.

3 cups milk, 3 cups flour, 3 eggs. Bake 1-2 hour in a quick oven, in cups.

WHITE MOUNTAIN CAKE.

3 eggs, 1 cup sugar, 1-2 cup milk, 1-2 cup butter, 2 cups flour, 1 teaspoon soda, 2 of cream tartar. Flavor to taste.

POTATO SOUP.

Pare and boil 6 or 8 large potatoes; when done, pour off the water, add more water, an onion or two, let boil, then add about 3 quarts of cream and milk. Let it boil up, and serve.

BELLA FISK.

Address all letters to
COUSIN CERES, (Care of COMFORT.)

THE MINISTER'S WIDOW.

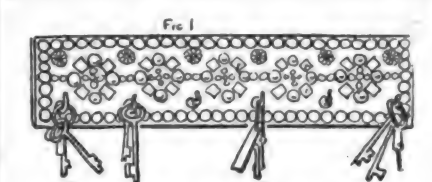
"Before Mary was taken down with the Grip everything was going along smoothly in our little home," wrote Mrs. James Martin, known as The Minister's Widow. "Johnnie was choring around before and after school and picked up quite a number of dollars in that way; little Nell attended the primary, and my beautiful and greatest helpmate Mary had a splendid run of dressmaking, so with my own sewing we were getting on very nicely without our friends' assistance, and just commencing to lay aside a little money, having paid all debts that were hanging over us from



HE CONSULTED HIS WATCH.

the first year's trials of trying to exist without James. How quickly matters change in this world, how much we depend on a kind Providence to watch over us.

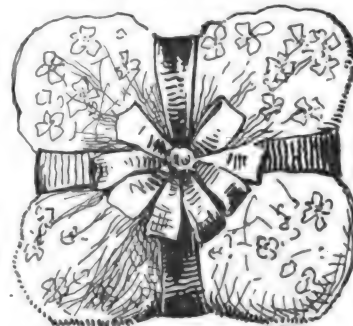
Oh, what if my darling daughter Mary had died when we seemed to need her the most, and what dark days those were after being taken down, becoming feverish, helpless and almost beyond recovery. That night when our good physician took his watch out and counted the pulse beats, saying he had done everything in his power to save my girl and that it would only be a question of a few hours as to her stay with us, what anguish we all suffered, even little Nell clinging to my skirts seemed to understand our utter helplessness and realized the sorrowful tidings. Oh, had the life from that beautiful body got to go out, the spark from that soul ascend to Heaven now, but how lifeless that exquisitely moulded arm now seemed as the doctor held that beautiful hand in his. One last ray of hope seemed to dawn upon me after the doctor had departed, and I sent Johnnie to neighbor Green who was acting agent for that wonderful Orien I had been told so much about. The awful cough soon seemed easier after a few tablets were given her, her mind did not wander so much, sweet, gentle and peaceful sleep came to her. Those exciting, nervous dreams ceased, magic results seemed to be promised as the outcome of using that wonderful food for the nerves, Orien, although at such a late day, and what comfort came to my own soul that night. It is only those that have to walk so near the precipice that can realize the sweet satisfaction of having a dear one saved, yes brought back from the dead as it were, and I do hope everyone who hears of these miraculous cures will take heed and keep some Orien ever by." Mrs. W. J. Christian of Granger, Iowa, says she would no sooner think of keeping house now without the wonderful food for the Nerves than she would without bread and butter. "Why," she writes, "I was a poor, mean, yellow-skinned looking woman not weighing a hundred pounds, without strength, ambition or hardly the breath of life in me. I heard of Orien and what a change came after using it a few weeks. Here I am now what everyone speaks of as a walking Orien advertisement, pretty, plump and full of life and spirits. Would you believe it, I gained 35 pounds just by taking those tablets according to directions and my step is firm, my eye is bright, my arms are round, and I am plump all over just from taking three Giant Boxes. Three Thousand dollars would be a small price to pay for the improvement that came from investing that three dollars, and I wonder why all the people do not send for free samples as I did when I first heard of it. I am going to take the agency and know I can now get a large business established and make money, for I see that is the way they all do after getting help themselves from using the food." We could tell of thousands of people who



Something for the Boys.

There seems to be so many things for the girls in the family in the way of fancy articles that we think the boys will appreciate a little thing for them. They display so much skill and so much patience in making odds and ends that we older people seldom realize their ability till they have attained eminence in some profession and all the world is talking about their genius.

Here is a little keyboard which any boy can make up, figure 1. It is made with brass and silver headed nails of various sizes. One must have a sharp pointedawl and a piece of leather or some soft substance to protect the head of the nails when hammering them. If a hardware store is convenient they will sell you a nail guard and at the same time you can get a good variety of fancy nails. When finished and polished with a coat of shellac and varnish the boy will have a very useful and ornamental article not only for keys but for shoe hooks, scissors, rings, etc.



Now here is something for the boy's sister. It is an elder down pillow. They are always attractive and one cannot have too many of them as there is always a place in which to use them. There are chairs and sofas and lounges without number that are always crying for them and the demand seems unlimited. A pretty way to make them is to have the bag for the down rather large and then cover it with a bag which is still larger. Sew two bands of ribbon crosswise around the cushion rather tightly, finishing with a full bow and afterwards pull the fullness into each corner. The silk in the sketch has pink wild roses with pale green leaves and the ribbons were of pink satin with a generous bow composed of loops and ends of light green and pink. These colors may be varied and the material may be China silk or some other bright colored cloth that is not quite so expensive.

"WORTH A GUINEA A BOX."
SPECIAL NOTICE
Complying with general request,
BEECHAM'S PILLS
will in future for the United States be covered with
A Tasteless and Soluble Coating,
completely disguising the taste of the Pill without in any way impairing its efficacy.
Price 25 cents a Box.
New York Depot 355 Canal Street.

FREE PENKNIVES.

To advertise the cheapest jewelry and agents' supply house in the world, we propose to give away several thousand **TORTOISE-SHELL** and **BONE-HANDLED** penknives and our book of 350 fine engravings to any person sending 6c. for postage, etc. Write at once and get the benefit of this grand offer. Address,
H. KNOBLOCH & CO., 1195 Broadway, New York.

YOU GET A PRIZE

WHETHER FIRST OR LAST
IF YOU READ THIS REBUS.



This Rebus contains six words, what are they? To the first person sending a correct answer by mail before May 31, 1902, we will send

ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS IN CASH.

To the second correct answer, \$25 in cash. To the third, \$10 and to the next five each a Nickel or Gold Plated Watch. To the next 10 each a Set of Fine Silver Plated Tea Spoons. To the person sending in the last correct answer we will give a Solid Gold Stem Winding Watch. To the next last \$50 High Arm Sewing Machine with full set of attachments. To the next 50 each a Fine Gold Plated Ring. Answers must reach us on or before April 30th; with your answer send 25 cts. cash or postal note or 30 cts. in postage stamps for a subscription to our Illustrated Magazine Paper, worth a \$1.00 a year. Paper and prizes will be sent on receipt of answer. As soon as the contest closes a printed list with the names of the successful contestants will be sent to each one. This offer is made solely to advertise our Publications and introduce them in new homes. A Barred E of Money for 3 cts. if you answer quick. Write your answer, name and Post office address plainly, and send subscription money to
E. NASON CO., Pub., 132 Church St., N. Y.

\$6.95 FREE TO EXAMINE. Ladies or Gent's. An all American watch, both case and movement, and absolutely guaranteed to keep the best of time or money refunded. Beautifully engraved, simple case, stem winder and set, guaranteed by the manufacturer to be made of two pieces of SOLID GOLD. Doves composition metal and guaranteed to wear with ordinary usage for many years, and stand all acid tests. For a first looking watch this has no equal, elegantly engraved and not to be surpassed in beauty or workmanship by any, however high in price, when fitted with a high grade adjusted genuine American jeweled stem wind movement, we offer you a watch that will not only give perfect time but a life's service. You can get any genuine guaranteed watch at this price! This offer is the first ever advertised for a genuine all American guaranteed case with reliable movement of this grade for less than \$20 to \$30. We are sending out a small class of goods; if your common sense does not tell you that we are not going to pay for this advertisement unless we are doing so, anything we will say will not mean much. We are inundated with orders from people (simple curiosity mongers) who have not the remotest intention of purchasing, and to protect ourselves in an infractional measure from such orders we ask you to send only 10 cents, either in coin or postage stamps with your order for the watch referred to in this advertisement (not as a guarantee of good faith) but as a voucher that you will not stock on hand, as we cannot replace them at prices we offer them to you. Out of this advertisement and send to us, and we will send by express C. O. D.; and after examining, if found correct, if you pay \$6.95 and charges; if not, you do not pay anything. State whether ladies or gents also. Address at once:
WILLIAMS & CO., 125 South Halsted Street, Chicago, Ill.
We recommend this watch to any one who desires a first class watch that combines service with durability. Mention this paper when you write.

\$350.00 BICYCLES
SILK DRESSES, Etc.
GIVEN AWAY.

This Rebus is the name of a machine for outdoor sport that every boy and girl in the land would like to be the owner. WHAT IS IT?
To the first person from whom we receive the correct answer before May 30th, 1902, **\$100.00 in Gold.** To the next two, an **Elegant High Grade Safety Bicycle** (24 in. wheels); to the next five persons, a **Handsome Silk Dress** Pattern of 16 yards in Black, Blue, Green, Brown or Tan; to the next 10, a **Solid Gold Genuine Diamond Ring**; and to the next 15 sending in the correct answer, **\$5.00 each.** To the person from whom we receive the last correct answer, we will give **\$100.00 in Gold**; to the next 5, a **Handsome Silk Dress** Pattern of 16 yards; to the next 10, a **Solid Gold Genuine Diamond Ring**; and to the next 15 sending in the correct answer, **\$5.00 each.** To the person from whom we receive the last correct answer, we will give **\$100.00 in Gold**; to the next 5, a **Handsome Silk Dress** Pattern of 16 yards; to the next 10, a **Solid Gold Genuine Diamond Ring**; and to the next 15 sending in the correct answer, **\$5.00 each.** To the person from whom we receive the last correct answer, we will give **\$100.00 in Gold**; 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Young Folks' Department



MY DEAR BOYS AND GIRLS:

Isn't it glorious to have the snow all gone, and to get out into the woods and fields again? It seems a pleasure to live, when the air is so sweet and clear, and everything in Nature is waking out of its long sleep.

You enjoy the flowers, the birds, the trees, everything beautiful that you see around you; but this spring I want you to begin to enjoy them in a new way. I want you to think about them. You have doubtless all read the old story of "Eyes and No Eyes" of the two boys who were sent by their father for a walk over the same stretch of country; and on returning, one had seen nothing but a road, a field, and a river, while the other was full of the interesting sights which had greeted his observing eyes. I would like each one of you to be like that second boy. The road over which you go to school, the yard where you play, the walk which seems so familiar—well as you may think that you know them, there is always

is noted for being the Great Blue Grass Region of Southwestern Iowa. I suppose some of the cousins have heard of the Coe State Blue Grass Palace. We live 28 miles from there and 75 miles from Missouri river. I am a farmer's daughter, am 14 years old; I enjoy the pure country air. We live on a farm which has lots of stock on it, so I'm among the stock a good deal of the time. Would like to correspond with a girl 13 to 15 years.

RUTH WIDENOR, Conway, Taylor Co., Iowa.

"I am a little boy just 11 years old. I live on a farm away up in the blue hills of old Wilkes Co., N. C., 16 miles northeast of Wilkesboro'. I have never had the pleasure of seeing our country seat yet, though papa has promised me I can go shortly and see the train. Dear Aunt, I want to tell you I sent for two copies of the COMFORT. I never have been as well pleased with any paper in my life. I send to-day for a whole year's subscription. I am so well pleased to hear of a people who are trying to help the poor sick and afflicted. Dear Aunt and cousins, it is not that way in this country. Why, I know of two that have starved to death in our neighborhood. Papa and mama knew nothing about it until they were dead. I for one intend to try to do something for my Master. I want all the little cousins to lend a helping hand. I intend to send something to all the 'Shut Ins,' God being my helper. I am going to work and see how many subscribers I can get for the COMFORT. I want to, not for myself but for a sick friend. With many good wishes to Aunt Minerva and all the cousins.

THOMAS LONG, Springfield, Wilkes Co., N. C."

Dear Auntie:—Will you be so kind as to admit into the ranks of your happy company a lonely boy from the old Palmetto State. I received several copies of COMFORT and was so delighted with the paper I determined to become a subscriber. I was particularly pleased with the correspondence columns and determined to ask admittance to your happy band. I have just completed a 3 weeks' journey over Lexington Co. Like all others I naturally think my home and State the garden spot of the world. While on my rounds I have seen some historical and curious things. Among them was part of an old breastwork near Columbia, which was thrown up during the Revolutionary War. I also visited a house in which Lord Cornwallis had his headquarters. This house has a hole in it made by a cannon ball which passed directly over the bed of a British officer. The owner of the house also has Cornwallis' card table. Among other curiosities I saw Hunter's Rock, which I will describe in the future. Will several of the cousins, both boys and girls, correspond with me. Please write and give more comfort to a lonely boy. Will some officers of the Temperance Union write me full particulars in regard to the organization. I am interested in the cause of temperance and I may be able to help it by means of your society. I remain sincerely,

ARTHUR F. HARMAN, Lexington, S. C.

My dear Aunt Minerva:—I am a little country girl and don't know how to write letters that will interest the cousins, but they must not laugh at me this time, for I want to tell them what a nice time we had Christmas. We had a Christmas tree at the church, and it was just lovely so many nice and beautiful presents on it; no one was slighted, each scholar got something nice on the tree, also the old folks. The first thing done was the marching. Each Sabbath-school teacher had a banner with an appropriate motto; teachers all marched at the head of their classes, while the choir sang the song, "Onward Christian Soldiers." There were several appropriate songs and recitations from the young folks. The time passed off very pleasantly after the presents were all distributed, and the children made happy. We enjoyed a fine display of fireworks on the outside. We have a fine Sabbath-school at the Presbyterian Church, which I attend every Sabbath. This is one of the oldest Sabbath-schools in Southwest Virginia; it has been in a flourishing condition for more than 30 years. We have a good Superintendent, one who tries to discharge his duty. We also have a fine school which is called the Whitney High School, of which Prof. Rogers has charge. I think we will all like our teacher very much, as he is very kind to the children. We have a nice academy well furnished with all the new improvements. Well, Auntie, I'll bring my letter to a close, with much love to Aunt Minerva and the cousins.

PEARLIE C. LEWIS, Dickey, Ga.

You must indeed have had a delightful time at your Christmas tree. I am glad you like your school and Sunday-school so well, my dear Pearl.

I must not leave out my very little folks, and here is a letter so carefully printed by a dear little girl away out West.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I am a little girl 6 years old. Mama takes COMFORT, and my brother reads it to her. He is 9 years old. He has been to school, but I never have; what I know, he taught me. My mama is sick, and has been for several years. My brother and I do all the work. I can make light bread as good as any woman. I make cake for mama, and cook the meals the same as a grown woman. Wash days my brother helps me. We live 3 miles from the school-house, in a valley in the sand hills of northwestern Nebraska. Our house is made of sod. It is 12x16 feet, with a board roof with sod on it, and one window. Our nearest neighbor is one mile away. I have a little baby sister 11 months old, the sweetest baby in the world, I think. I have no pets of any kind. We had a dog and cat and 12 chickens, but they all died this winter. There are lots of coyotes and jack rabbits here, and some gray wolves; we



THE REASON.

The new little chickens looked drooping and sad And Dolly in consequence felt very bad; Thought she to herself, and she paused in her chatter, They're cutting their pin-feathers—that's what's the matter!

E. L. S.

hear them howl very often. We have a rabbit to eat sometimes; we got one yesterday. I like COMFORT, and the children's letters. Good-bye from

RUBY E. SHERMAN, Antioch, Nebr.

Dear little Ruby, you must have to work very hard. Your mama is fortunate to have two such good children to help and care for her.

Dear Aunt Minerva:—I am a little boy 7 years old. I live in a village. My father has a store; when I get older, I will clerk for him. In the summer I go to Sunday-school; my father is the Superintendent. I like it very much. I have a little brother in Heaven. Mama says that if I am a good boy, I will go there when I die. My grandfather gave me a Waterbury watch at Christmas; don't you think he was very kind? With love to the little cousins.

MAXWELL COCKRILL.

Yes, I think you must have a dear, kind grandfather, and a good papa and mama too. Did you know that you forgot to tell me where you live, Maxwell, wasn't that funny?

Now I suppose I must say good-bye until another month. Will you all remember what I have told you about keeping your eyes open, and if you find anything wonderful, just write and tell us about it.

Your loving AUNT MINERVA.

Free Photos.

We have some elegant Photos of prominent places which we are going to give away to introduce our new Giant Catalogue of Novelties, will send an assorted collection to any one who will enclose a 2c. stamp for postage on same.

MORSE & Co., Augusta, Maine.

BUSHEL OF MAIL MAGAZINES PAPERS FREE

No cent pays for your address in "OUR AGENTS DIRECTORY," which goes to you free. You will get lots of small mailer and good good from us who want agents. You will get lots of small mailer and good good from us who want agents. You will get lots of small mailer and good good from us who want agents.

SOLID GOLD FILLED \$100 REWARD

Beware of imitation gold filled watches. We will pay \$100 in cash to anyone if we cannot prove that the watch illustrated here, and which we offer for \$12.95 (cost of price \$25.00) is a genuine gold filled watch, guaranteed by our special certificate to wear and retain its color for 21 years. Fitted complete with our very best full plate movement, which we guarantee to run and keep correct time for 10 years. CUT THIS OUT and send to us with your name and express office address, and we will send it there by express for your examination; if after examination you are convinced that it is a bargain, pay the agent \$12.95 and the express charges and it is yours. This will not appear again. Write to-day, do not miss the chance to get a \$25.00 watch for \$12.95. Address

THE NATIONAL MFG. & IMPORTING CO., 334 Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

\$500 FOR A PANSY BLOSSOM!

Every reader of this paper should not fail to enjoy some of the Alice Pansies this summer, which were named by Mrs. Harrison. They create a sensation everywhere and their beauty is beyond description. Their Mammoth Size of odd colors is wonderful, and they have cost more than \$500 to secure them, but they are far ahead of all other varieties of Pansies and can be had from no other seedman. I want to increase their size and will pay \$500 in CASH to any person growing a Blossom measuring 8 in. in diameter; 2 1/2 in. are very common size. See catalogue. For 25c. in silver or 25c. in stamps, I will mail, carefully packed, so they will go several days, 12 plants of the "Alice Pansies" (soon be blooming) in Pearl Tube Rose Bulbs and my illustrated catalogue. For \$1.00, I will mail 50 good plants. I want to increase their size and will pay \$500 in CASH to any person growing a Blossom measuring 8 in. in diameter; 2 1/2 in. are very common size. See catalogue. 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Thoughts by THE EDITOR.

S AITH the Preacher: There is a time for every purpose under heaven, a time to weep and a time to laugh! This is one of the times to laugh, to send out a loud editorial guffaw, for this morning the blades of our shears were glued together, our inkstand was filled with water, our pens were one and all greased, and the lid of our desk was firmly screwed down. Saith the Preacher: There is a time to keep silence and a time to speak. This was a time to keep silence. Said John Adams in his old age halting in front of his own monument: "There was a foolish man who never knew when to hold his tongue." We play the most fantastic tricks on ourselves and in the end are forced to cry out like England's great cardinal after his fall: "We have ventured like little wanton boys that swim on bladders This many summers in a sea of glory, But far beyond our depth."

Among the "bubbles" which in our day and generation have been blown to the people's great delight, may be mentioned De Lesseps' quixotic attempt to pierce the Isthmus of Panama, by which the French people were robbed of many millions of hard earned money, and Dr. Koch's proclamation that he had discovered a remedy to stay the progress of the terrible disease known as consumption. Thousands upon thousands of pallid faces glowed with hope upon reading of these wild promises and thousands even set out on their way to Berlin where they firmly expected to leave all their suffering and come back with the light of a new life in their eyes and the vigor of health in their body and limbs. Poor creatures, they were tricked again, theirs had been but a fool's errand.

But not only does man seem liable at all times to be tricked by his fellowman, nature herself is not above fooling him. How many times does she not promise rain or hold out a pledge of fair weather only to change her mind and cry April fool? And how many times does she not spread out before the toiling miner samples of a metal which he eagerly clutches as pure gold, only to be told that it is "fool's gold" (iron pyrites) after he has heaped it up in vast quantities? Not alone however in the wild wastes of mining lands do we come upon weak mortals fascinated by the glitter of fool's gold; such men exist in the very midst of us, turning from the true metal of honorable callings, sufficient incomes and happy firesides to pursue the phantoms of wealth and preferment, turning from the dingy hues of the homely virtues to follow after the tawdry and tinsel colors of Vanity Fair. Poor deluded creatures, how often they wish themselves back under the vine and fig tree which sheltered them before they joined the "madding crowd," before they had laid aside comfortable homespun for purple and fine linen, before they had exchanged the pleasing hum of the household for the shuffling of many feet on the marble floors of the exchange. It is strange that with the testimony of all the world's sages warning us to give preference to the country rather than to the city if we would lead happy lives, we should be so eager to turn our backs on the old homesteads and go to large towns to live. Are not the honors and preferment, are not the noisy pleasures of great cities, are not the shows and pageants of royal residences, all more or less fool's gold? It may be well enough to walk through Vanity Fair, it may be well enough to see for once the pomp and splendor of the passing show, but why wish to tarry there, why be so eager to exchange the comfortable and roomy homestead for the two or three little square holes in the wall of some vast hostelry of the metropolis? Cincinnatus and Washington were the only two rulers of great nations who longed to give up the bustle and glitter of the palace for the peace and quiet of their farms and while we admire them in theory, we take good care never to put their principles into practical operation. Of late years it would seem as if the old outnumbered the young in the laughing, chatting, frivolous-minded crowds which throng the streets and avenues of Vanity Fair, buying what they don't need, and eating and drinking when neither hunger nor thirst is upon them. It is the old song of despair:

Then stand by your glasses steady,
This world is a world of lies.
Here's a health to the dead already
And hurrah for the next one who dies!

Do you really think, dear readers, that there is any man living who would refuse to exchange a humble cot for a princely residence with a park and garden and fair meadow land to go with it? Do you really think that your town or village or city holds a single Diogenes who, if one of our millionaires should halt in front of his little cottage and offer him a chest of gold, would reply: "Thanks, I have no closet room to spare!" We firmly believe that there are many such dear, contented souls in this world, who having a roof over their heads and clothes on their backs, with all the victuals and drink they need, would shake their heads and smile if you were to ask them to move into a spacious dwelling with servants to attend them and horses and carriages at their command. At any rate, here is a little poem which we have just fished up out of the editorial grab bag. It tells of such a person and gives his very thoughts upon the subject. It is entitled:

SIR CROESUS AND I.

Sir Croesus dwells in a marble hall
With a slavish throng at beck and call,
And he rests his head on a pillow of silk
And he sleeps on linen as white as milk,
But he sleeps not half so sound as I
On the bed of huskings where I lie;
For his heart beats quick and his blood is hot,
And pleasant slumber cometh not
To listless limbs that ne'er were blest
With that sweet balm, the toiler's rest!
Give all his gold and more to me
I would not Sir Croesus be.

Sir Croesus deems no music sweet,
While I am moved by the lambkin's bleat,
And my heart is touched by the warbling wren,
By the crowing cock and the cackling hen.
Sir Croesus fears the winds at war;
And the summer heat, it vexeth sore
Sir Croesus' soul; but not so mine.
I'm as tough as yew, I'm as strong as pine
And I love the storm and I love the blast
For the sunshine always comes at last.
Give all his gold and more to me
I would not Sir Croesus be!

Sir Croesus feeds on daintiest food,
With sparkling wine when in drinking mood,
While I have naught in my humble cot
Save what I grow on my garden spot.
Sir Croesus lolls on springs of steel,
While upright I, on my bench of deal;
And the brightest skies are dull to him
And a thousand tapers burn too dim;
While warmth and incense come to me
From a single branch of a birchen tree.
Give all this gold and more to me
I would not Sir Croesus be.

In this busy, bustling life of ours we often lose sight of the sweet significance of many of these Christian holidays, and we celebrate them in a perfunctory sort of way as if we even begrudged the few hours which they take from our business. This is to be regretted and especially it is to be regretted that we have allowed the popular observance of the Easter festival to fall into disuse. How rarely do we see nowadays, especially in our large cities and great commercial centres, the "Paas egg" make its appearance as in the good old days it was sure to do, stained in so many colors and so highly prized by the children of the family? And with the exception of Russia, very few nations have retained the custom of exclaiming upon meeting a friend or acquaintance: He is risen! to which the person addressed made reply: He is indeed risen! By a strange twisting from its original and proper significance—a festival for mutual congratulation, for the exchange of expressions of joy upon the reappearance of the Divine Master, Easter Sunday has in many centres of so-called culture and refinement become a day for selfish indulgence, made manifest by appearance upon the street wearing new bonnets, new gowns, new suits of clothing, new hats and new ornaments. The "Sunday of joy" has become to a great degree a feast of selfishness. Instead of renewing, strengthening and building up our faith in the Divine Master and His teachings we go about looking for compliment, commendation and flattery from the mouths of our fellow creatures. But there is no need of uttering a jeremiad over this state of things. Sooner or later the people discover that the gratification of one's vanity can bring no real or lasting happiness with it. The pride of youth, the pride of intellect, the pride of wealth, all these are good enough in their way, but they don't go far enough. You can't build happiness upon them any more than you could erect a marble palace on a shifting bog. Faith is the one great and glorious foundation to lay your cornerstone

ALL OVER THE UNION.

In Arizona, Alabama and Alaska too And also in Arkansas will "Comfort" meet your view. In Connecticut and California, very distant states, As well as Colorado, this "Comfort" circulates. The District of Columbia, and Delaware as well, And also fair Dakota, the praise of "Comfort" tell. In Florida, in Georgia, both man and womankind Are happy every month when they the welcome "Comfort" find. In Illinois and Indiana, also Idaho Like Iowa, the people well the worth of "Comfort" know. And Kansas and Kentucky have quite a population Who recognize in "Comfort" a delightful publication. Maine, Massachusetts, Michigan and Minnesota too, Montana, Mississippi, to "Comfort" give its due. Missouri and fair Maryland, Nebraska and Nevada, Take "Comfort" and they find it for their trouble a rewarder. New Hampshire and New Mexico, New Jersey and New York, Possess a host of people who of "Comfort's" value talk. And the pair of Carolinas, North and South are not behind. Subscribing for that "Comfort" in which pleasure they can find. Ohio, Oklahoma, and Oregon afar, Have many people who to "Comfort" new subscribers are. And mighty Pennsylvania has thousands who subscribe To "Comfort" like Rhode Islanders, who will its worth describe. Both Tennessee and Texas have a quickly growing list Of people who each month upon their "Comfort" now And Utah of subscribers has a very decent share, While Vermont and Virginia by their "Comfort" often swear. There's Washington, Wisconsin and Wyoming for the last, Where "Comfort's" big subscription list still keeps on growing fast. So as all o'er the Union the paper surely goes An ad. in "Comfort's" sure to pay, as everybody knows!



SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 8 ABOUT CHICAGO THE CITY OF THE WORLD'S FAIR

upon, and exactly in proportion as you have serene and childlike faith in human hearts and in divine promises, exactly in that proportion will you come nearer to happiness in this world. Dear readers of COMFORT, these words will reach you in plenty of time to make ready your "Paas egg," and thus carry joy to the hearts of the little ones and when they lift their sparkling eyes and ask what it is all about you may tell them. And our word for it, the remembrance will abide with them forever!

An Easy Life.

Many people find it an easy matter to obtain 25c. yearly subscriptions to COMFORT and we call attention to our Premium Offers on other pages. The 36 piece Tea Set is an especially valuable assortment of China and you can obtain it by securing only 36 Subscribers. We furnish blanks. Sample copies &c. to all who desire to go to work.

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This bib is of large size, made of the best quality of fine waterproof material, presenting an ornamental pattern of various designs on the outside, and is adapted to fit the neck and breast of children of all ages. They save dollars worth of clothing each year and are a great comfort to have around. Morse & Co., Augusta, Maine, are going to send one free to all who send 10c. for a three months trial subscription to COMFORT. No mother should neglect this opportunity to secure one for each of her children. If you are already a subscriber you can extend your subscription in this way.

THE MERRY MONTH OF MAY

Is coming right along and "Comfort" has many good things in store for its readers. We are anxious to have all of the three and six months' subscribers renew now and see just what splendid features "Comfort" is going to bring out through the summer. Thousands of dollars are being expended to bring "Comfort" to such excellence that its fame will be heralded around the world. The pictorial feature of Aunt Minerva and the Nieces and Nephews of opposite page is but one of the many novelties in way of illustrating that "Comfort" has underway, and we have already ordered another Mammoth Perfecting Press of an entirely new design that will cost nearly Fifty Thousand Dollars, which will be the most marvelous press ever manufactured and enable us to present a paper for a small amount of money superior to anything now being published in the world. Send 25c. to-day for a year's subscription and it will enable you to derive more solid comfort for the coming year than you ever dreamed of.



Doctor—"From the condition of your hand and arm, I should say you are suffering from writers' cramp—too much exercise of one set of muscles." Young business man—"But I never write. I employ a type-writer." Doctor—"Um—engaged to her?" Young business man—"Y-e-s." Doctor—"Do your—er—dictating with your other arm."—New York Weekly.

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THE INGLESIDE,
16 Murray St., New York City.
\$200 Reward if we fail to prove that we give these prizes just as we advertise.



MY DEAR MYSTIC FRIENDS:

Perchance many who are reading COMFORT for the first time, would like to know who the old man in the picture is, whence he cometh, whither he goeth and on what mission. Listen while he tells you.

Oldcastle comes from his home, a large ancient castle in "Mystic Land" to the "Realm of Comfort" each month, that he may meet the "Mystic Friends" who gather here to greet him, and talk over affairs concerning puzzledom. He brings with him a large carpet-bag filled with the enigmas, letters, etc., received from his "Mystic Friends," some of which he gives them each time to solve. A hearty invitation is extended to any reader of COMFORT to become a member of "Our Mystic Band." Send solutions to the following puzzles and some original puzzles for publication and be enrolled as a member. If you cannot make puzzles try to solve some. Address all communications concerning "The Mystic Castle" to Oldcastle, Comfort, Utica, N. Y., signing name and address as well as *nom de plume* every time you write. I will gladly answer the letters that you send me, if you will inclose a two-cent stamp.

Now I will have a little chat concerning the contents of my carpet-bag this month.

First of all, the solvers to January's "Mysteries" are found to be as follows:

Complete lists:—Eglantine, Hercules, Ruth, W. E. Wiatt, Ed. Ward, Katie Green, Sphinx, Arty Fishel, Ypsie.

Incomplete lists:—Doc, Frank, Buck I. Solver, 14; Waldemar, Essay, P. A. Stime, 13; Beb, 12; Andox, Josie A. Bourjal, Iniz, 11; Ben Net, 10; Dellan, Aspiro, A. Penanink, Sunshine, Roland, 9; Remardo, Thinker, Castranova, Jessie, Batterson, A. F. B., Novice, 8; Nettie Simon, Rosebug, T. Nettie A. Chadwick, Philon, H. A. Watha, 6; Percy Vere, Noah Coast, Ith, Diet, Primrose, F. I. Dont, Roy, 5; Ajax, R. Ebus, Merlin, G. Whiz, Jew V. Nile, Rem-lap, Bill Arp, Tyro, Sarah Conley, Black Eyed Charley, 4; Little May, Nancy Lee, 3; Pat Riot, 2; Will Broadstreet, Zaida, Ernest Beaver, Theo Logy, 1. Prize-winners:—1. Eglantine. 2. Katie Green. 3. Ruth.

Specials:—1. Ebus. 2. Iniz. In awarding the prizes for the best lists, priority of receipt had to be taken into consideration. Since my last journey contributions have been received from Merlin, 5; Jupiter, H. S. B., Pat Riot, 4; A. Penanink, Aspiro, Neshobe, R. Ebus, Frank, Prof. Wm. Broady, 3; Ypsie, Nancy Lee, Jew V. Nile, Ed Ward, 2; Ben Net, Roy, Waldemar, 1. "Ethan Allen" will hereafter be known as "Neshobe."

Just now, methinks I hear some voices exclaiming, "I wonder when Oldcastle is going to publish my puzzles!" Dear friends, it is true, many whose contributions were received long since have not seen them in print yet; but do not get discouraged. We will try to make room for these in our next few issues. Watch out for them! Some of the puzzles were crowded out of our last two issues, this accounts for the misnumbering which has occurred recently.

Our Mystic Friend, Alexander Brimmer of Arner, Ontario, Canada, is offering some good prizes for contributions. He would be glad to hear from any of the "Mystic Band."

The following letter which I think will interest the Mystic Friends, was received recently:

Holly Springs, Miss., Feb. 24, 1892.

To Castle Comfort and its Mystic Band:

For the last time I enter the "Mystic Castle." Only a few months have I been with you and to many my name and face are strangers; but I have enjoyed my short sojourn more than words can tell. I hope that the few who know me will not soon forget me. May the Mystic Band prosper and Castle Comfort be filled to overflowing. May my vacant chair be soon filled by one worthier than I. I go to devote my life to the Lord's work. In a few days I enter the novitiate of a religious order. You have only known me as Apache, so as Apache bid you farewell.

Mizpah, APACHE. Although our friend has been with us but a short time, yet we have realized his presence and will miss him very much. May God's blessing rest upon him throughout life and prosper him in the noble cause in which he has enlisted.

There are many other things I would like to tell you this month, dear friends, but I have already chatted quite a little and must leave them till I come again. So bidding you a friendly good-bye for this time, I start homeward.

Your dear old Mystic Friend, OLDCASTLE.

SOLUTIONS TO JANUARY'S MYSTERIES.

No. 266. George Frederick Handel.
No. 267. "The Telegraph is the nervous system of civilization."
No. 268. The Eye.
No. 269. Enigmatography.

No. 270. LASCAR
AMERCE
SEGRAS
CRAVAT
ACRASE
RESTEM

No. 271. SHASTRA
HASTIER
ASSUMER
STUMBLE
TIMBERS
RECTEST

No. 272. Work-man-ship.
No. 273. R
SUBLIMATE
PAINTFUL
RIGHT
ERS
A
CID
DUNCE
LEVELER
ONONDAGAS

No. 274. REP
ROSEN
ROSETTE
RESETER
REPENTER

No. 275. Comfort. No. 276. Mystic Castle.
No. 277. P
KORR
AIRER
KITTLES
PORTFOLIO
BELOMANCY
BELOMANCY
SINCE
OCS

No. 278. O
ALDER
ALECTOR
OLDCASTLE
BETROSES
ROLES
E

MYSTERIES.

No. 282. Numerical.

The whole, composed of thirty letters, is an old proverb.

The 13, 2, 8, 18, 22, 25 is a defensive armor for the head.

The 1, 14, 7, 21, 19, 1 is a large tree in tropical Africa.

The 16, 7, 20, 14, 20 means the present day.

The 3, 7, 27, 5 is the lowest part or foundation.

The 23, 9, 10, 17 is a number.

The 16, 30, 6 is at the same time.

The 18, 14, 16 is the early part of life.

The 26, 4, 11 is to bind.

The 24, 12 is a pronoun.

The 29 is a pronoun.

Dry Ridge, Ky., LITTLE DO NOTHING.

No. 288. Half Square.

1. False. 2. Notched on the edge like a saw. 3. Moving. 4. The planet formerly called Herschel. 5. A ground of interference. 6. A genus of birds. 7. A month (abbr.). 8. A force, supposed to produce the power of mesmerism. 9. A letter.

Bennett, Nebr., HERCULES.

No. 294. Mutation.

Did you ever see a fairy,
See an elf sit by your side,
Talk in manner free and cheery
With a show of haughty pride?

I have seen an elfish maiden
Sit and chatter with her dear,
While his heart with woe was laden,
Which her jabber failed to cheer.

Something must be wrong about him,
Which COMPLETE I can't explain;
Dearest maidens—do they doubt him?
This may cause the inward pain.

Dubois, Illinois, ASPIRO.

No. 295. Charade.

A long-leaved plant is my FIRST,
Which in the water measure,
SECOND is a cloth measure,
As everybody knows,
THIRD is Mythological
The goddess of revenge—
Are we philosophical
As we together menage?
We must not be too prideful,
Or the whole will us scourge.
Solvers of the "Mystic Band,"
The answer now emerge.

Providence, R. I., RAY.

No. 296. Inverted Pyramid.

Across. 1. The parting of a cake. 2. The solemnization of marriage among the Romans, by which the bride tasted a cake made of flour, with salt and water, in presence of the high priest, and at least ten witnesses. 3. A division of birds including the true pigeon, (Web. International.) 4. Impure protoxides of zinc collected from the chimneys of smelting furnaces. 5. A town of Austin Co., Texas, (P. O. Guide.) 6. A disease in a hawk. 7. A letter.

Down. 1. A letter. 2. Whether. 3. A laborious drudge. 4. A rippling on the surface of water. 5. The most elevated part of the arm, (Domgl. Med. Diet.) 6. One of the German cavalry of the 14th and 15th century. 7. An exorcism growing from the postern to the middle of the shank of a horse. 8. Six pointed stars, (Her.) (Web. Inter.) 9. A town of Harrison Co., Miss., (P. O. Guide.) 10. Comes fully up to. 11. Corners. 12. A bone. 13. A letter.

Brooklyn, N. Y., ED. WARD.

No. 297. Double-Letter Enigma.

In "tolling mankind,"
In "wearisome mind,"
In "braver seamen,"
In "happy women,"
In "cheerful boys,"
In "children's toys,"

The LAST of the FIRST sat down by the fire,
His thoughts wandered far, far away,
To times which to him were gay and brighter
And when he was more than a whole.

Wataga, Ill., OLD PETE.

No. 298. Square.

1. A book of elements. 2. A kind of cyst. 3. To set with brilliants. 4. To revolt, (obs.) 5. A genus of birds. 6. Thinnest.

Embsen, Me., GUY.

No. 299. Square.

1. One who resolves a sentence into its elements. 2. To sell. 3. Low. 4. The star fish. 5. To embellish with variegations. 6. To blush.

Roseville, Ill., JUPITER.

No. 300. Square.

1. A pacer. 2. Nautical. 3. Species of wild geese. 4. The linnets. 5. To tempt. 6. To seek again.

Colgate, N. D., PAT RIOT.

No. 301. Square.

1. A genus of plants. 2. A problem difficult of solution, (Nuttall.) 3. A saddler. 4. Triangles. 5. Change of place. 6. To manage, (obs.) 7. A plant.

Bangor, Pa., T. HINKER.

No. 302. Diamond.

1. A letter. 2. A title prefixed to the name of a knight. 3. Nightshade. 4. Extended compositions for one or two instruments. 5. Of or pertaining to a pirate. 6. Withdrawn. 7. Fastened with a lace. 8. Melancholy. 9. A letter.

Odell, Ill., ODELL CYCLONE.

PRIZES FOR SOLUTIONS.

For the best list of answers to this month's "Mysteries," "Complete Cabinet of Fun, Wonder and Mystery," "Second best list, Year's Subscription to COMFORT."

Specials:—1. Webster's Handy Dictionary. 2. Dime Savings Bank. Awarded by lot among the rest of the solvers.

Contest closes June 1, 1892. Solvers and prize-winners in July "Mystic Castle."

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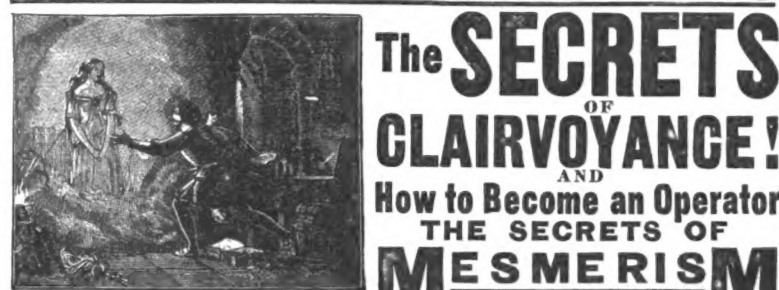
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